

# *The* MESS KIT



*Published Monthly by*  
**U.S.A. BASE HOSPITAL**  
CAMP MERRITT, N.J.

**VOL 1**  
**NO 2**

**A P R I L**  
**1 9 1 9**

**10¢ A COPY**  
**\$1.00 A YEAR**



# You Have Done Your Part.

To help you win the war—win it six months earlier than anybody believed possible—we, at home, incurred debts for so many tons of steel and so many pounds of beans, so many feet of timber and so many yards of cloth, so many horses and so many mules, so many blankets and so many shoes.

Some of all this was used before November eleventh, some of it was not. Some of it was paid for by the preceding Liberty Loans, some billions of dollars' worth was not. Some of it will continue to be used for months to come—all of it, because it was ready to use, helped you win the war six months sooner and saved one hundred thousand of your comrades' lives. And all of it must be paid for according to contract. These are our debts of honor.

*Ask the folks  
back home,  
how much  
they are going  
to lend for  
the Victory  
you've won.  
Root for the  
Victory Loan.*

*This space contributed by*  
THE MESS-KIT  
U. S. A. BASE HOSPITAL  
CAMP MERRITT, N. J.

GOVERNMENT LOAN ORGANIZATION  
Second Federal Reserve District  
LIBERTY LOAN COMMITTEE  
120 Broadway - - - New York



## The Mess-Kit

A magazine written and published by the enlisted men of U. S. A., Base Hospital, Camp Merritt, N. J., issued monthly.

COMMANDING OFFICER: MAJOR J. I. SLOAT, M.C., U. S. A.

ADJUTANT: 1ST LIEUT. W. B. TATUM, M.C., U. S. A.

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

One Year, \$1.00; Six Months, 50 cents; Three Months, 25 cents; sent postpaid in the United States and Possessions. Extra postage to Canada and Foreign Countries, 50 cents a year.

(Application Made for Second-Class Postal Privileges)

# Editorial

## EDITORIAL STAFF

### Editor

CORPORAL SYDNEY B. FLOWER

### Athletics Editor

SERGEANT CHARLES E. BEBO

### Circulation Manager

PVT. 1/C MORTIMER HELLER

### Subscription Agents

PVTS. 1/C HOWARD OTSTOT; RALPH LONGBQTTOM

### Contributors and Cartoonists

PVTS. 1/C GEORGE N. STACK; PHILIP M. CURRENT;

### Official Illustrator

PVT. 1/C THOMAS PRINCE

### Assistant Illustrators

MISS MARION LEWIS, MISS MARIE GRAY

### Nurses' Department

MINA K. STRICKLAND, A. N. C.

### Mess:

SGT. 1/C ELMER F. GOGGANS

POST EXCHANGE: SGT. HAROLD J. COONS

LABORATORY: PVT. 1/C CONRAD MARKWALD

GUARD: SGT. FREDERICK McCONVILLE

PERSONNEL: CORPORAL JOSEPH F. CLEMENT

### Business Manager

HOSPITAL SERGEANT ROY SPIVEY

### Assistant Business Manager

SGT. JOSEPH ARMSTRONG

### Advertising Manager

SGT. JOSEPH M. KING

### Assistant Advertising Manager

SGT. HERBERT TEEL

### Photographer

CORPORAL GEORGE W. THOMPSON

### Special Feature Writers

MAJOR SAMUEL A. COSGROVE, M.C., U.S.A.

### Base Hospital Surgical Staff

1ST LIEUT. SAMUEL BROCK, M.C., U.S.A.

### Advisor and Treasurer

1ST LIEUT. D. G. SAMPSON, M.C., U.S.A.,

C. O. BASE HOSPITAL MED. DEPT.

### Contributors

DETACHMENT: SGT. 1/C JOHN MATTHEWS

Q. M. C.: SGT. WHEELER; SGT. THOMAS O'DEA

GARAGE: CORPORAL FRANK B. SOLLOWES;

PVT. 1/C JAMES PIERCE

RECEIVING WARD: SGT. LEO STANTON

Vol. 1

APRIL, 1919

No. 2

### The Surgeon General as His Men Know Him.

The article in this number, accompanying the portrait of Major General Merritte W. Ireland, Surgeon General, U. S. Army, was written especially for THE MESS-KIT by Sgt. Pierre Loving, Surgeon General's Office, Washington, and carries with it a pleasing flavor of informal, genial intimacy. The photograph presents the alert, efficient head of the Medical Department of the Army; the story shows you the man at close quarters, making clear the reason why he is loved, respected and trusted by the men of his command.

\* \* \*

### Re-enlisting for One Year.

Men of this Detachment who are not married and have no dependents at home entitled to family allowances are considering the matter of re-enlisting in the United States Army for a period of one year. They argue that they might be kept here on their Emergency Enlistment for an indefinite number of months, extending, possibly, to one year from date. If they apply for their discharge immediately for the purpose of re-enlisting for one year, they receive their discharge at once, receive their \$60 bonus on their next pay-day, receive a 30 day furlough within 30 days, and know definitely that their period of service terminates one year from date. It looks like a good gamble to the editor of THE MESS-KIT. It is true that earlier legislative enactment has put a period to the time of Emergency Service, naming, if our memory is not at fault, four months after the signing of Peace Terms as the date on which the Emergency Service comes to an end. But we have no certain knowledge of when the Peace Terms will be signed, and it seems to us a piece of good business if the entire staff of THE MESS-KIT apply for re-enlistment at once, for the definite period of one year's service. We are anxious to keep our editorial staff

together. We can best keep together if we stand together on this matter. The editor chooses to re-enlist. The decision is made. Will all those men of this Detachment who think as he does in this matter make their minds up and take action? THE MESS-KIT will print each month a list of the men of the Detachment who have applied for re-enlistment, either for one year's home service, or for three years' Overseas Service.

\* \* \*

### A Good Reception.

The first number of THE MESS-KIT seems to have made many friends. Our intent, of course, is to make each succeeding number a little better than the last. In order that there may be no doubt whatever as to where we stand on the question we will say, succinctly, that the goal is possible of attainment. We shall do the best we can. THE MESS-KIT has been more warmly welcomed by the general public than by our own men of the Base Hospital Detachment because these have felt that their own personal interests were not given sufficient attention in the first number. They will like this April number a little better, perhaps, and when they grasp the plan of the magazine as a whole, realizing that every Department of the Base Hospital organization will be covered in detail and in order from month to month, they will understand that THE MESS-KIT is their magazine. The annual subscription support, both from the Detachment men and from the general public, has been ample and increasingly generous. Soldiers have had time to hear how pleased the people at home are with THE MESS-KIT. This counts for a great deal. A magazine that is popular with the men on duty only, leaving the interest of friends and relatives unawakened, would have little chance to live. We are building THE MESS-KIT into a permanent success and have planned the business on enduring lines, warranted to last.



*The Mess-Kit  
Monthly Cartoon  
"The New Frankenstein."*

We have contended that there was sufficient talent of a literary and pictorial kind locked in the heads and hands of the men of this Detachment to produce a monthly illustrated magazine with class to it. Your attention is asked to centre itself upon the cartoon, published in this number, drawn by Pvt. 1/c Thomas Prince of this Detachment, as substantiating in a large degree the above contention. You remember, of course, the famous "Frankenstein" story, written very many years ago by the wife of Shelley, the British poet, dealing with the dilemma of a man who constructed, after years of patient labor, a monster in the shape of a man, which lived, moved, acted, and, in all respects save one, resembled a human being. The one thing lacking was a moral sense. The result was very horrible. The artist for THE MESS-KIT has seized upon the Frankenstein idea as applicable today to Germany and its monster, Bolshevism. The same parallel has struck the fancy of the cartoonist of the English paper, *The Passing Show*,



*Studdy in the Passing Show*

**A BRITISH VIEW**

*Frankenstein, After Long Toil, Created a Monster Which He Failed to Control, with the Result That It Overpowered Him*

and his drawing is reproduced here, in a comparison that is not to the disadvantage of THE MESS-KIT artist. Prince's cartoon lacks the element of the grotesque discernible in the other, securing attention by the pungency of the central idea presented with least use of detail.

Detail only distracts. The force is in the hug of the bear. The famished fox; the half-human, half-beast grin of the bear; these things round out the solid effect of the cartoon as a whole. Prince's monthly cartoon in THE MESS-KIT will be a feature of constant interest. Congratulations to the artist.

\* \* \*

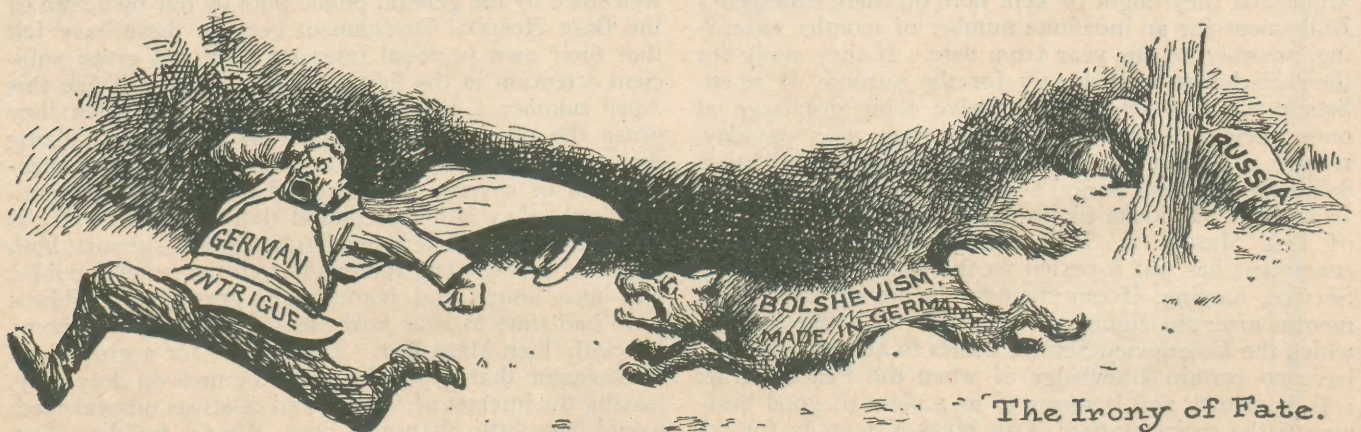
**The Cartoon Essay Competition.** There is no reason that we know of why a monthly Essay Competition

dealing briefly, in 100 words of prose, with each month's cartoon, should not prove very popular with our subscribers. The conditions of the contest are very simple. The competitor may be man or woman, but must be an annual subscriber to THE MESS-KIT. The essay, carrying the full name and address of the writer, must be in our hands by the 10th day of the month. There are three prizes, \$5, \$3, \$2, for the three best essays submitted. No award can be made in the March Cartoon Essay Competition for one or other of two specific reasons, namely, either the competitor was not an annual subscriber to THE MESS-KIT, or the essay did not reach us by the 10th day of March. The prize essays will be published each month in the number of THE MESS-KIT immediately following the current cartoon. We hope to see a quick response to this April Cartoon Essay Competition.

\* \* \*

**"Bolshevism is Applied Socialism."** Last month THE MESS-KIT defined Bolshevism as merely Socialism in Action. The accompanying sketches

by Kemble in recent numbers of *Judge* emphasize the thought with more or less humor. A recent dispatch from Berlin to the effect that Germany feared the destruction of her capital city by Bolshevik uprising does not awaken in the American breast any particular anxiety or regret.



**The Irony of Fate.**



## CURRENT HISTORY IN CARTOON No. 2



## THE NEW FRANKENSTEIN

DRAWN FOR THE MESS-KIT BY PVT. 1/c THOMAS PRINCE, MED. DEPT.

## THE CARTOON ESSAY COMPETITION.

To stimulate attention to this Department of The Mess-Kit we invite our subscribers to send in their own interpretation of the story told by the cartoon in the form of a brief essay, not to exceed 100 words in length. For the best three essays submitted, The Mess-Kit will pay \$5, \$3, and \$2, as First, Second and Third Prizes, respectively. The Cartoon Essay Competition will close on the tenth day of every month. For example, essays sent in to compete for this month's prizes must be in our hands by the tenth day of April. Essays must be addressed on the envelope to THE MESS-KIT, CARTOON ESSAY COMPETITION, U. S. A. BASE HOSPITAL CAMP MERRITT, N. J. The essay itself must carry the full name and address of the writer. It is not necessary that essays should be typewritten, but they must be clearly written. The three prize-winning essays will be published in the following number of The Mess-Kit. This Cartoon Essay Competition is open to all annual subscribers to The Mess-Kit. By these means we stamp the significance of the monthly cartoon upon the mind of the reader, keeping the interest in the subject alive.



*The Monthly Poem.*

Nothing better than the following verses by F.P.A. of the New York Tribune have come to our notice for many a long day. They were first printed in the *Saturday Evening Post*, while F.P.A. was still Captain Adams of the Ordnance Department, U. S. A., serving in France:—

# “WHEN YOU MEET A MAN FROM YOUR OWN HOME TOWN”

By FRANKLIN P. ADAMS  
Captain U. S. A.

*Sing, O Muse, in the treble clef,  
A little song of the A. E. F.,  
And pardon me, please, if I give vent  
To something akin to sentiment.  
But we have our moments Over Here  
When we want to cry and we want to cheer;  
And the hurrah feeling will not down  
When you meet a man from your own home town.*

*It's many a lonesome, longsome day  
Since you embarked from the U. S. A.,  
And you meet some men—it's a great big war—  
From burghs that you never had known before;  
And you landed here, and your rest camp mate  
Was a man from some strange and distant State.  
Liked him? Yes; but you wanted to see  
A man from the town where you used to be.*

*And then you went, by design or chance,  
All over the well-known map of France;  
And you yearned with a yearn that grew and grew  
To talk with a man from the place you knew.  
And some lugubrious morning when  
Your morale is batting about .110,  
“Where are you from?” and you make reply,  
And the o. d. warrior says: “So am I.”*

*And the universe wears a smiling face  
As you spill your talk of the old home place;  
You talk of the streets and the home-town jokes,  
And you find that you know each other's folks;  
And you haven't any more woes at all  
As you both decide that the world is small—  
A statement adding to its renown  
When you meet a man from your own home town.*

*You may be among the enlisted men,  
You may be a Lieut. or a Major Gen;  
Your home may be up in the Chilkoot Pass,  
In Denver, Col., or in Pittsfield, Mass.;  
You may have come from Chicago, Ill.,  
From Buffalo, Portland, or Louisville—  
But there's nothing, I'm gambling, can keep you down  
When you meet a man from your own home town.*

*If you want to know why I wrote this poem,  
Well . . . I've just had a talk with a guy from home.*

*Land for Soldiers.*

Secretary of the Interior Lane is working toward favorable action by Congress upon the bill introduced by Representative Taylor, of Colorado, which was not acted upon by Congress in its last session, asking for an appropriation of \$100,000,000 to provide work and homes on the land for discharged soldiers. Secretary Lane is of opinion that the bill will be promptly and favorably considered at the “coming special session of Congress.” THE MESS-KIT sincerely hopes that Congress will take quick action on this matter. Nothing is of more pressing importance than that discharged soldiers shall be, without delay, offered the opportunity of becoming bona-fide settlers on government land. Representative Taylor, author of the bill, has the right idea. He says, “I can only say to the House and to the country and to the many thousands of our splendid boys who will be sorely disappointed by this failure of the House to pass this bill or act upon this subject that I will reintroduce the bill on the opening day of the next session and push the measure with all the energy I possess. I hope that instead of the appropriation being for \$100,000,000, it may be five times that amount.” Many States have already taken action by legislation or by appointment of committees to cooperate with the Federal government.

\* \* \*

*“Port of Missing Men.”*

If you are anxious about a relative or friend in the military service who has been reported missing, who has not written to you, or whose whereabouts is unknown, you are likely to get trace of him, if he can be found at all, by writing a letter to “The Port of Missing Men,” Surgeon General's Office, Washington, D. C., giving the full name, and last known address, of the missing man, his rank, and organization, and any detail that might help a comrade in identifying the description. The Surgeon General's Office will pass your inquiry on to the 28 or more Army Hospital papers which carry a column under this heading,—“Port of Missing Men,” wherein these requests for help in finding missing men are printed each week. Instead of writing your inquiry to The Surgeon General's Office you could, if you prefer, pick out from the attached list of Army Hospital papers the one published nearest your home and send your inquiry direct to that paper. Address any of the following list:—

1. *The Cure*; Base Hospital, Camp Upton, N. Y.
2. *The Trouble Buster*; U. S. A. General Hospital No. 2, Fort McHenry, Md.
3. *The Caduceus*; Base Hospital, Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Ga.
4. *Letterman Listening Post*; Letterman Gen. Hospital, San Francisco, Cal.
5. *The Ward Healer*; U. S. A. Gen. Hospital No. 12, Biltmore, N. C.
6. *The Base Hospital Daily Bulletin*; Base Hospital, Camp Custer, Mich.
7. *Ontario Post*; General Hospital No. 5, Fort Ontario, N. Y.
8. *The Hospital Review*; U. S. A. Gen. Hospital No. 1, Williamsbridge, N. Y.
9. *The Hustler*; U. S. A. Gen. Hospital No. 16, New Haven, Conn.
10. *The Fort Bayard News*; Fort Bayard, New Mex.



11. *The Come-Back*; Walter Reed Hospital, Room 3, Building 93, Washington, D. C.
12. *The Fort Des Moines Post*; U. S. A. Hospital, Fort Des Moines, Iowa.
13. *The Oteen*; Gen. Hospital No. 19, Azalea, N. C.
14. *The Right About*; Debarkation Hospital No. 3, Greenhut Building, N. Y. City.
15. *Base Hospital Journal*; Camp Sherman, Ohio.
16. *Pill Box*; U. S. A. Debarkation Hospital No. 1, Ellis Island, N. Y.
17. *The Reflex*; General Hospital No. 30, Plattsburg Barracks, Plattsburg, N. Y.
18. *Heads Up*; Debarkation Hospital No. 52, Richmond College, Va.
19. *Over Here*; Army Gen. Hospital No. 3, Rahway, N. J.
20. *Home Again*; Debarkation Hospital No. 2, Fox Hills, Staten Island, N. Y.
21. *Over the Top*; Base Hospital, Camp Zachary Taylor, Louisville, Ky.
22. *Asuwer*; U. S. Gen. Hospital No. 36, Detroit, Mich.
23. *The Reclaimer*; U. S. A. Gen. Hospital No. 34, East Norfolk, Mass.
24. *Official Bulletin*; U. S. A. Gen. Hospital No. 13, Dansville, N. Y.
25. *The Stimulant*; General Hospital No. 9, Lakewood, N. J.
26. *The Open Window*; U. S. A. Gen. Hospital No. 8, Otisville, N. Y.
27. *The Fort Porter Reporter*; Fort Porter, N. Y.
28. *Asyouwere*; U. S. Gen. Hospital No. 24, Parkview Station, Pittsburgh, Pa.
29. *The Star Shell*; U. S. Gen. Hospital No. 17, Mar-kleton, Pa.
30. *The Hospital Breeze*; Base Hospital, Fort Riley, Kas.
31. *The Recall*; U. S. A. Gen. Hospital, No. 28, Fort Sheridan, Ill.

The work done by The Port of Missing Men Department carried in these Army Hospital papers has been of the highest value. In many cases anxious relatives have been put in touch with men officially reported missing whose whereabouts was revealed by the publishing of the inquiry in these hospital papers. THE MESS-KIT will publish each month an accurate, up-to-date list of Army Hospital papers in which The Port of Missing Men column can be found.

\* \* \*

#### *Praise to Our Artists and Contributors.*

Pvt. Current's illustrated article on "The Glorious First Division" has a distinct historical interest plus a racy narrative humor. Pvt. Cutler's series of "Shep." cartoons continues to evoke the merriment of the Detachment. In the May number of THE MESS-KIT the cartoonist will bid a temporary farewell to Pvt. Shepherd in a culminating sketch, concerning himself thereafter with other members of the Detachment whose foibles strike him as humorous material. These cartoons will also carry the element of surprise in that no preliminary announcement of the subject will be made. Pvt. Stack's Personal Depart-

ment in this number should prove a quite popular feature, to be continued from month to month. Members of the Detachment will bear in mind that Pvt. Stack's ear is ever open to their cry. Sgt. Goggan offers the first instalment of a series of articles on the Mess that will be of the greatest interest to every civilian reader as well as to men who have worn the uniform. Pvt. Markwald of the Laboratory personnel is a distinct addition to the contributing staff. He will present in a series of articles in THE MESS-KIT matter of value regarding the work accomplished by the Base Hospital Laboratory throughout the year. Sgt. Bebo has shown himself fully competent as editor of the Athletic Department of THE MESS-KIT and Sgts. King, Armstrong and Teel are now preparing some great team-work in the matter of reaching advertisers. Though their work does not proclaim itself in the pages of the magazine, Pvt. Heller, circulation manager, and his assistants, Pvts. Otstot and Longbottom, have been and are an indispensable part of the editorial staff, their efforts covering an active annual-subscription and distribution campaign. The editor feels personally that a MESS-KIT number without an article from the facile pen of Major Cosgrove sustains a loss that can best be met by a promise of continued future support in this direction. In the midst of the care required to attend properly to the control of detail in the busiest office of the Base Hospital, the Sick and Wounded, Hospital Sgt. Spivey finds time to fill adequately the job of Business Manager of THE MESS-KIT, in itself no sinecure. The staff of THE MESS-KIT is rounding well into place. There are some Departments of the Camp Merritt Base Hospital organization which ought to be represented in our pages and will be welcomed in succeeding numbers. It is beginning to dawn upon the men of this Detachment that their Base Hospital has a big story to tell, of the greatest interest to the outside world. THE MESS-KIT is their mouth-piece. We never had the slightest doubt that THE MESS-KIT would be a big success. It is pleasant to note that all concerned in it now share the same feeling. We make our acknowledgments for loyal support and encouragement from the Jewish Welfare Board, Y. M. C. A., Knights of Columbus, and individual members of other helpful organizations. Our thanks also to Miss Lillian J. Ryan, chief nurse, and to Miss Strickland of the Base Hospital Nursing Staff. Without the cheerful assistance accorded by 1st Lieut. D. G. Sampson, C. O. Med. Det., as Advisor and Treasurer, and his cordial coöperation in relieving men from their routine duties to serve on the staff, THE MESS-KIT would have had to face a much more difficult problem. The paper owes much also to the timely suggestions and always helpful criticism of Major Sloat, C. O. Base Hospital, whose attitude from the beginning has never wavered a hair's-breadth from what it is today. "You think you can do it? Go ahead and do it. I think you can. There ought to be enough talent in this Detachment to produce a first-class magazine. Your business is to find the talent and bring it out. Make it a magazine for the men. Unless THE MESS-KIT represents the men it will fail in its purpose. Keep that before you. Get your organization together. This Command will do its part to help the magazine to succeed. If you need anything, ask for it." That has been, and is, the Commanding Officer's attitude. It has smoothed away many difficulties. Lieut. Hoge, personnel adjutant, in charge of one of the busiest departments of this Base Hospital, introduces us this month to a glimpse of the important routine work conducted by the Personnel Office in the well-written article by Corporal Clement.



# The Surgeon General, U. S. Army, As His Men Know Him

Written for THE MESS-KIT

By Sergeant Pierre Loving

"What's on your mind?" is his prompt way of interrupting your halting or involved circumlocutions. Then you proceed forthwith to state your business. You come down to brass tacks and fondle only facts. You realize that the man, or rather the personality, sitting with eager inquiry written on his face opposite means to get things done. No use paltering, buddy, when you have commerce with the Surgeon General. Put your deal, your proposition, whatever it chance to be, straight across without equivocation, and Major General Merritte W. Ireland, the head and fount of inspiration of every man and woman connected with the Medical Department of the Army, will be prepared to listen and clean up the business with you without any dead driftwood left over for to-morrow or to-morrows.

That is the temper of the Surgeon General of the Army.

Unless the problem you have come to present is of salient importance, you will receive from that jolly, smiling, vigorous, long-limbed personality opposite you one of three possible answers:

"It can be done."

"It cannot be done."

"Come back in a few days." Or a later date, depending on the matter in hand.

That is the temper of Surgeon General Ireland, whose whole history, whether as an unknown medical officer in the Philippines or as chief of the Medical Department, may be summed up by the phrase: "He is primarily a man of *faits accomplis*."

Let us, for the moment, try a throw-back on the career of Major General Ireland. The setting is strange and the clime full of languors, small indolences and a bygone, rusty method of warfare, oddly outmoded now.

The time is the Spanish-American War. Every sleuth-hound on the spoor of General Ireland's previous history will find that it trails back in almost every instance to the Spanish-American War. No general, no head of a great department was he then; only a captain working miracles of leadership in some daily skirmish or battle, swift and resourceful to meet the multiple exigent difficulties of the time. The superiors of the young medical officer recognized in him a man of initiative with a steel-trap grasp of the principles of organization.

Can you imagine a coral reef as an army post? A wave-washed coral reef extending out into the sea from the fringed shore of Cuba, at Siboney? There was, as you shall see, justice and wisdom in the choice of the location, for the place had been designated a base hospital under the command of Major Louis La Garde. Major La Garde's executive officer was Captain Ireland.

At Santiago, only a few miles away, the American forces were aligning strate-

gically before pouncing on the enemy. The battle burst fiercely, and in but a few hours the first batch of 1,500 wounded were on the way by train to the base hospital at Siboney. Everything was in complete readiness, but certain supplies had been unusually delayed. There were not even hospital tents. As executive officer the solution of this impasse fell upon the shoulders of Capt. Ireland. And Capt. Ireland proved himself the man equal to the job.

Prior to his appointment, at the age of 24, as Assistant Surgeon in the United States Army, Merritte W. Ireland had been graduated from Detroit College of Medicine and Jefferson Medical College. He had entered the army in 1891. And here he was caught in the maelstrom of the Spanish-American War, vis-a-vis with his first big task.

Capt. Ireland rolled up his mental sleeves and set to work. When the trains began to unload the wounded there was, miraculously, a long row of fully equipped hospital tents stretching along the shingled beach of the coral reef. They were not regulation hospital tents. They were, in fact, mess tents. And they were not mis-cast in their new role, because the part they played assisted materially in the care of the wounded. They served their purpose admirably. Capt. Ireland was the man who got them there. How, even today remains a mystery to not a few of his intimate colleagues.

Malaria, dysentery and yellow fever broke out and had to be fought. Fifteen heroically working surgeons succumbed to the plague of yellow fever, but through it all, slacking never a moment, taking not even necessary rest at night, went the young captain, with invincible efficiency and great cheerfulness. The magic of his electric vitality seemed to immunize him against all contagion.

Capt. Ireland, with a minimum of delay, got the wounded men onto hospital ships bound for the United States before the plague spread dangerously among them. Major La Garde himself was stricken, and still more exacting duties were shifted to the shoulders of the young medical officer. He never relaxed his efforts in behalf of the sick and wounded men. He was Siboney's man-of-all-work, on many an occasion substituting for the engineer on one of the trains operated in connection with the hospital.

Subsequently he was called to Washington and worked with General O'Reilly, then head of the Medical Department. But in the meantime he had already done his stint in Manila for three years after the Spanish-American War. At the latter place he had served in the capacity of Medical Supply Officer. It was there that he was affectionately nicknamed "Pronto" because of the promptness with which he despatched whatever business he had on hand and for the readiness with which the Spanish phrase came to his lips.

"Pronto," he would say, and the action that followed suited the word. To this day his intimates in the service know him by that name, for he still says "Pronto" when things look as though they were in a serious jam.

In 1902, when Major Ireland made his official hegira to Washington, he found the desks in the Medical Department burdened down with paper work involving business which had accumulated in the years which marked the marvelous development and expansion of the department after the war.

"Ireland always has a clean desk," said General O'Reilly. For ten years he applied his luminant mind to every branch of executive work. He was disciplining himself unconsciously for the great task ahead.

In 1915, when Pershing was ordered to the border to take in leash the outlaw Villa, Lieutenant-Colonel Ireland was also sent to the base hospital at Fort Sam Houston. General Pershing there had an opportunity of appraising the work of Col. Ireland. Naturally, therefore, when we went into the great war—went into it boots, breeches and all—General Pershing chose Brigadier-General Ireland Chief Surgeon of the American Expeditionary Forces in France.

His work in France stands out as a marvel of constructive organization. The medical troops of the United States were co-ordinated and trained to meet the emergency. Prevention and cure. These were the shibboleths of General Ireland over there. And the allied surgeons attest to his mercurial spirit and infinite resourcefulness in the teeth of every harrowing contingency. Later when Major-General William C. Gorgas retired as head of the Medical Department, Brigadier-General Ireland was recommended for this important vacancy. And there he is holding down one of the biggest jobs of the era, planning curative measures, stabilizing reconstruction, engineering the countless vast undertakings of the Medical Department of the United States. There are over 200,000 enlisted men in the Department and 20,000 officers. With these as the far-reaching antennae of cure and rehabilitation, he has set himself the mammoth problem of bringing back to normal health over 50,000 wounded men.

In personal appearance Major-General Ireland is over six feet tall, with a vigorous stride that sends him sailing along. He is young-looking and wears an ineffaceable air of jollity. His hair is streaked with iron and whitening grey. However, the Surgeon General is the apotheosis of pep. He is giving of himself all the time, and he is giving his whole-hearted best. And as there are few men of his time of life who can match him in verve, so there are few men who can parallel his result-compelling efficiency. Pronto!





MAJOR GENERAL MERRITTE W. IRELAND, MEDICAL CORPS  
*Surgeon General, U. S. Army*



# The Story of U. S. A. Base Hospital at Camp Merritt, N. J.

By the Historian

(Continued from March Number)

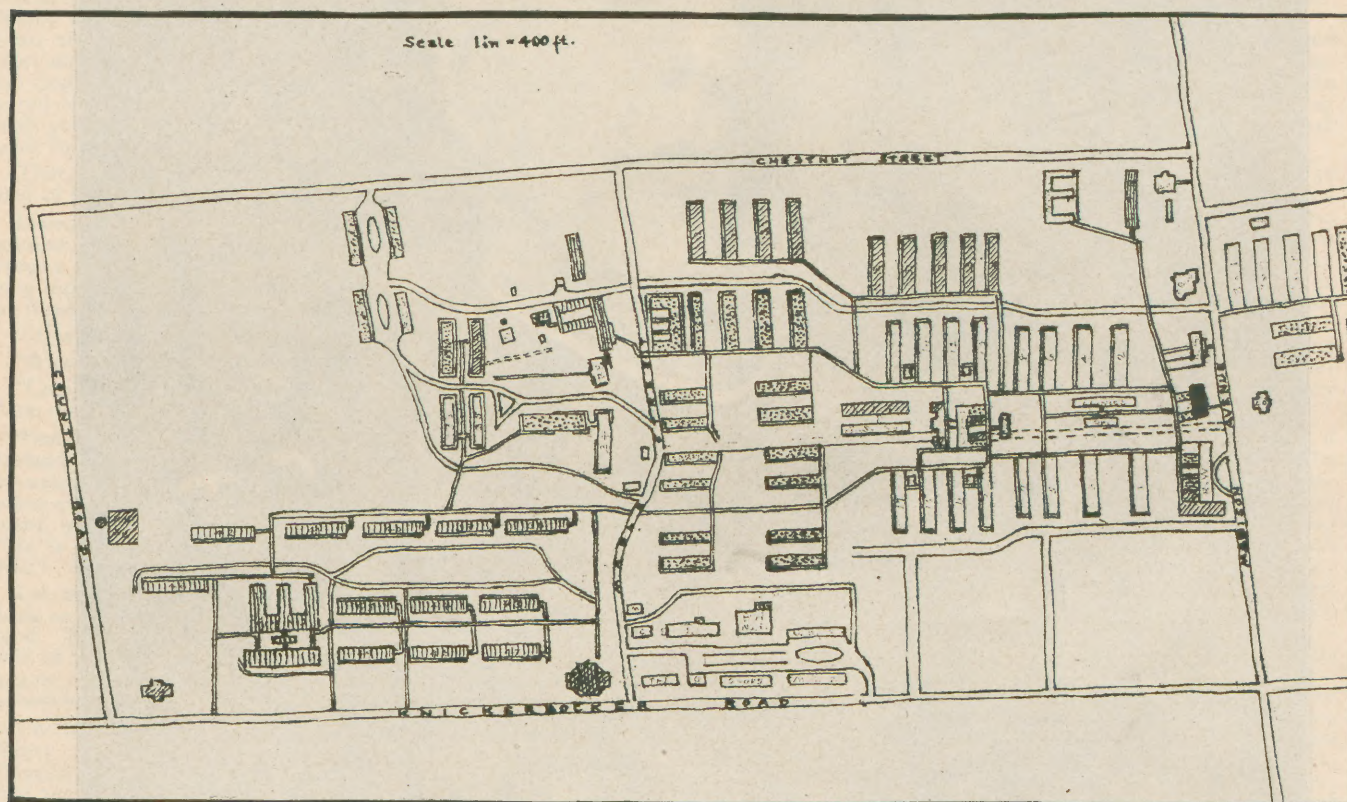
**Plan of Buildings and Distribution.** The standard type of ward was adopted, 166 ft. x 25 ft., with porches, screened in summer, on two sides. The first building of wards, which was the first stage of construction for the Base Hospital, was in the form of a four-sided figure, the 16 wards forming, in their two batteries of 8 wards on a side, the east and west sides of the figure, the buildings on Madison Avenue, namely, the Administration Building, Officers' Quarters and Receiving Ward, forming the north line of the figure, while the Mess Hall, Kitchen, Post Exchange and Medical Supply Warehouse No. 1, roughly constituted the south line.

and nearing completion. In the central portion, directly behind the old Officers' Quarters, the long, narrow building shown was used by the Laboratory, Dental Department, X-Ray Department, and Head-surgery Section, with a waiting-room used in common by the three last-named branches of the hospital service. Directly opposite this building stood the Operating Pavilion. The wards that lie in two rows of eight on either side were numbered Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17, on the east line, and 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, on the west side of the figure, omitting No. 13 altogether. The Post Exchange, Mess Hall, Kitchen, Diet Kitchen and Medical Supply Warehouse No. 1, all lay in the

sleeping quarters for the medical officers of the Base Hospital, serving this purpose from September, 1917, until January, 1918, when the Officers' Barracks on Madison Avenue were ready for occupancy. The Berry House was then turned over to the nurses and suitably renovated and enlarged. The buildings enumerated constitute the first stage in the construction of Camp Merritt Base Hospital answering to the needs and equipment of a 500-bed hospital.

## Construction. Second Stage.

Without pause, the second stage of construction was entered upon in the spring of 1918, shown in the plan by the dotted, or stippled buildings, con-



Plan Showing the Four Stages of Construction of Camp Merritt Base Hospital

## Construction. First Stage.

A glance at the accompanying plan will show the buildings completed or nearing completion on January 9, 1918, outlined in clear white, without shading of any kind, consisted of the north side of Madison Avenue, four men's barracks, with a bath-house behind the second of the barracks, and the house of the Commanding Officer; on the south side of Madison Avenue, the Receiving Ward, adjoining it, in solid black, the old Officers' Quarters, the Administration Building, the Constructing Q. M. Headquarters and a building used for a Guard Post-house. Adjoining Chestnut Street, and quite outside of the lines of the four-sided figure, the E-shaped building, was the old Nurses' Quarters, then in process of construction,

group shown in the south-center line on the plan. Power House No. 1, the Chapel, Morgue, Laundry, Garage, Carpenter Shop and Machine Shops were also grouped in that east-center space adjoining Knickerbocker Road and Maple Street north. Crossing Maple Street there stood in the early part of January two little buildings used as contractors' sheds hard by Ward 34, which was known later as the Psychiatric Ward, and in close proximity to the Berry House. South again of Ward 34 and the Berry House stood two isolation wards, Nos. 35 and 36, the first of the group of four wards to be erected in the wooded country south of Maple Street. Quite early in the history of Camp Merritt the Berry House had been taken over by the Government as a

sisting of 16 wards, extending the sides of the original quadrangle further to the south; one extensive Officers' Ward, with kitchen and mess-room attached, shown on the plan, looking south on Maple Street; an elbow built on to Ward 34, making an "L" out of this ward; Warehouse No. 2 to house further medical supplies; a wing on the north-east and a wing on the north-west corners of the Mess Hall, doubling the seating capacity thereof; additions to the Receiving War affording further needed storeroom space for men's belongings, and three new barracks for men and a new bath-house north of Madison Avenue completed the quarters for the enlisted personnel, and wound up the second stage of Camp Merritt Base Hospital construction at the same time.





MAJOR J. I. SLOAT, M.C., U. S. ARMY  
*Commanding Officer U. S. A. Base Hospital, Camp Merritt, N. J.*



### Construction. Third Stage.

Although the construction itself can be strictly divided into its four proper stages, it is by no means easy to affix to each stage its date of commencement, for the reason that every stage interlapped with and was overlapped by the stage that followed or preceded.

Thus, the third stage, wherein the effort was almost localized to the woods south of Maple Street, was begun before the second stage was half completed, in the early summer of 1918. The shading of the buildings on the plan with perpendicular lines denotes the third stage of construction. This comprised the Convalescent Wards, built as "double-deckers," or two story affairs, with a large kitchen and mess hall in connection. The new wards were in part shaded by the trees of the original woods which were cut and trimmed with that end in view. A new Officers Quarters also was added at this time in the neighborhood of Madison and Chestnut, fitted up with two bath-houses, library, sleeping-rooms, and large reception-room, in which Summary Court could be conveniently held. An extensive addition was built to the Berry House for the use of the nurses, and Maple Street roofed over by overhead covered corridor connecting the Berry House with the corridors of the hospital proper, a convenience of importance in inclement weather.

were lent by the Q. M. Department, and by utilizing the verandas and all idle space in the wards, the hospital management was able to take care of 3,800 patients sick in hospital on a normal 2,500 bed basis. The fourth stage of construction included also a new isolation ward on the northeast corner of the group of four, a new warehouse at the rear of Medical Supply Warehouse No. 1, on Elm Street, a new Diet Kitchen, an enlarging of the General Mess by a double extension on each end, doubling the already increased seating-capacity, and a new wing on the east end of the Receiving Ward able to care for 2,565 separate packages of soldiers' effects. The Administration Building also was enlarged by a new wing, which made a single, well-lighted room, with daylight on both sides of its length for the use of the Service Record Department and the Sick and Wounded Department.

### Personnel Increase By Months.

These four stages of construction constituted the building of Camp Merritt Base Hospital. In connection with the plan of the buildings attached hereto, and so frequently mentioned in the foregoing explanation, it would be of advantage to consult the table appended, which well illustrates the gradual increase by months of the hospital personnel and hospital

## OFFICIAL

Enlistments for all branches of the regular army have been resumed by the War Department. No men will be enlisted or re-enlisted, however, who on account of dependents will be entitled to family allowance under the War Risk Act, but this restriction does not apply to men now in the army who enlisted prior to April 2, 1917. For the time being, no colored men will be accepted for original enlistment. The age limits for enlistments will be 18 to 45, except that for staff corps and departments the limit will be 55 years.

Special effort will be made to induce men to enlist for three years. It will be the policy of the Department to assign for overseas service only men enlisted for three years, and as many as possible will be given this service. This policy will not be construed as to prohibit the enlistment for one year only of those men now in the American Expeditionary Forces who desire to enlist for that period and remain with those forces.

Those who desire assignment to the Motor Transport Corps, Tank Corps or Air Service will be enlisted for Infantry for assignment to the branch desired. All men discharged for the purpose of re-enlistment who re-enlist on the day after discharge will be granted a month's furlough if they desire it, to begin not later than a month after re-enlistment.

\* \* \* \*

The payment of a bonus of \$60 to officers, soldiers, field clerks, and nurses of the army upon honorable separation from active service by discharge, resignation or otherwise, has been authorized by Congress, in the form of an amendment to the six billion dollar revenue bill approved and made a law by the President's signature on February 24. It was a compromise on several bills introduced to give extra compensation to soldiers on discharge. The bonus is not payable to their heirs or representatives of any soldiers who may have died while in the service.

As men hereafter are separated from the service the bonus will be paid on their final roll or voucher. The million or more men and women who have been separated from the service are required to communicate with the Zone Finance Officer, Lemon Building, Washington, D. C., stating their service, since April 6, 1919, the date of their discharge, their present address to which the bonus check is to be sent, and enclose their certificate of discharge, not a copy thereof, or military order for discharge, or both, if both were issued to them. The certificate of discharge will be returned to the soldier with his bonus check. The payments are being made in the order in which requests therefor are being received, and while it will take some time to make all payments, claimants should exercise patience, as all will be paid in due time.

\* \* \* \*

The War Department has not authorized, and does not advise, relatives or friends of soldiers mentioned in casualty lists or lists of citations for distinguished service to purchase various forms of printed cards, certificates, illuminated folders, etc., which are appearing on the market. Certain publishers and their agents, in offering to the kin of such soldiers these certificates, claim the War Department authorizes such publications. Such is not the case, the cards being offered for sale by private interests for profit. The co-operation of the hospital newspapers in protecting the public in this respect is in order.



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
The Official Entrance to Camp Merritt Base Hospital

### Construction. Fourth Stage.

The sweeping epidemic of influenza, which taxed the utmost resources of Camp Merritt Base Hospital, through the months of September and October, 1918, when 3,800 beds and cots were occupied by sufferers from gripple and gripple sequelae, found the fourth stage of construction so well advanced that nine new wards, near Chestnut Street, shown on the plan by diagonal shading, were completed and equipped to receive this influenza rush. It was fortunate, indeed, that the foresight of the Property Officer had prepared supplies of mattresses, bedding, &c., &c., well in advance of the need of the moment, in anticipation of some such strain. Everything, except sufficient iron beds, was on hand. Cots

bed-capacity from the date of opening, January, 1918, to November 1, 1918:

Date	Commiss. Officers	Nurses	Enlisted Men	Bed Capacity
Jan. 9, 1918..	20	11	97	416
Feb. 1, 1918..	32	58	171	476
Mar. 1, 1918..	32	58	191	486
Apr. 1, 1918..	35	77	221	680
May 1, 1918..	37	112	346	1,279
June 1, 1918..	37	110	386	1,279
July 1, 1918..	46	99	446	1,657
Aug. 1, 1918..	52	83	520	1,846
Sept. 1, 1918..	62	104	520	2,046
Oct. 1, 1918..	64	137	558	2,300
Nov. 1, 1918..	90	300	605	2,500

(To be continued)



# Merritt Hall

## The Home of Cheer on the Long, Long Trail

Written for THE MESS-KIT by An Overseas Man

When the order came that night that the freedom of Camp Merritt was ours, the hobnails of our hastening feet clicked down the macadam street, and we sought out the places that promised the utmost in satisfaction for pleasure-hungry dough-boys.

I had heard of Merritt Hall before leaving France from men whose descriptions of this club for enlisted men made a fellow wish that such places could be scat-

He had been in camp for a week, and told me about the things he enjoyed most. "After all," he concluded, "this is the place that you make your real hang-out, for you can get the best of eats, smokes and everything, and besides the chance to write and read when you feel like it." I remarked that the thing in the Hall that appealed to me was its freedom, that here men had no one standing around to tell them what to do, as they had at nearly

They make the soul of the place. That which is down deep within us, which makes us respect and love our mothers, sisters and wives, is getting full breath again." "You've said it," I rejoined.

I glanced into the pool room, where the click of the balls and the pall of cigarette smoke hanging over green tables was something new to a doughboy's eyes and ears. Strolling into the library, I looked over several shelves, finally selected a recent book on the Battle of the Argonne, written by a famous war correspondent, and settled back contentedly in a leather-seated chair under the amber shade of a reading lamp. My interest was quickly won, for I already knew something about the fight. I had been a part of it. I searched ahead to the pages where was described an unusually tough attack that our regiment made to capture a certain hill peppered with machine gun nests. In that fight I had lost my best friend, Bill Macy. I had seen his name in a casualty list some weeks later. "Died of wounds," was the short story it told. It is hard to lose a pal you have known from boyhood. I closed the book with a sigh, laid it on the table, and looked around the room. Could it be that some comrade here could fill the place in my life that Bill had? I doubted it. Then something happened; rather somebody happened—IN WALKED BILL! \* \* \*

When we walked out of the hall at closing time we stopped at the desk and told the chaplain of our experience. "It is not the first time that this has happened here," he said, with eyes a little moist, "and it reminds me of that sentiment in song:

"You find at the end of a perfect day  
The soul of a friend you've made."

"Chaplain," I said, "I can never forget Merritt Hall. It is more than a place to eat and drink, better than a place to read



THE ENTRANCE TO MERRITT HALL

*The Home of Cheer*

tered along the whole front. I followed the crowd, and was soon there. The electric sign above the entrance shone out invitingly. I entered and just gravitated naturally to the desk, where the smile and handshake of the lady who said "Welcome home!" and, "We are just so glad to see you!" made me sure that the spirit of the place was warm, personal and sincere. I thanked her the best I could for her welcome, and for the overseas cards with their smiling greeting for homefolks, and fell in line to buy soda-checks. The man ahead bought a dollar's worth, and this disturbed me until I saw by the price list that this was not due to extortion, but just plain soldier appetite. With a cake in one hand and several sundaes in the other, I hunted about for a table. When I found one and was having a wonderful time with the sweet stuff, the others seated with me began commenting on the difference between good American ice cream and the pale and tasteless sherbets we bought in France. We all agreed that such privileges as these would make our stay in Camp Merritt seem short at the longest.

Stepping into the lounge, where the wood-fire in the great fireplace burned with a heart-warming cheeriness, I was about to take the only unoccupied chair when I saw a guy on crutches looking for a seat. I went over and stood by the fire and let him find the vacant chair; then I sauntered back and spoke to him, for you will always find that those who were hit the hardest come up smiling the broadest. He was full of good humor and confidence, just as I expected. He seemed to be so mightily pleased with everything else that his bum knee didn't matter much.

every other place, and that the men felt that the whole institution was for them, and so they treated everybody and everything with the care that possession instills. He was silent for a time, intently looking at the desk where the ladies were busy in the art of making everyone feel at home, his eyes wandered back and regarded an-



THE LIBRARY AT MERRITT HALL

other lady who was sewing on chevrons for a soldier, who was telling her that he had just heard from home, the first time in six months, and that all was well. He leaned forward in his chair, and looking me in the eye, said in tones full of meaning, "Buddy, the real thing about this hall is the home-touch these women give it.

and play; it is a place where one rediscovers old friends, where men become alive again."

"That is its purpose," he said, and the grip of his hand as he silently bade us goodnight made the truth of his words an unforgettable memory."

*(To be continued)*



# Our Patients from Overseas

## GLORIOUS FIRST DIVISION

*Written and Sketched for The Mess-Kit*  
By Private 1/c Philip M. Current, Med. Dept.

(Continued from March Mess-Kit)

*The Story of two Patients from Overseas, Members of That Famous Organization, Now Convalescing at Camp Merritt Base Hospital*

3. Private Sanford Coleham, a patient in this hospital, a member of the famous Eighteenth Infantry, First Division, is a

stood when the shell struck. Private Coleham points to these coincidences of figures as peculiar. We grant it; it is peculiar. But not half so peculiar as the fact that Private Coleham is alive to tell the tale. He has major wounds on both arms, on one leg and on his forehead, and there are minor scars above his left eye, on his

(Copy of G. O. 201, Nov. 18, 1918.)

### GLORIOUS FIRST DIVISION

First Division (Regular Army) arrived in France June 27, 1917.  
Activities at the Front. Somerville Sector, 19 kilometers east of Nancy, Oct. 21 to Nov. 20, 1917.  
Aneauville Sector—Jan. 15 to April 3, 1918.  
Cantigny Sector—April 25 to July 7, 1918.  
Battle of Cantigny—May 28 to May 30, 1918.  
Soissons Operations.  
Marne Counter-attack—July 18 to July 21, 1918.  
Soijeras Sector—Aug 7 to Aug. 24, 1918.  
St. Mihiel Operations—Sept. 12 to Sept. 13, 1918.  
Argonne-Meuse Offensive—Oct. 1 to Oct. 12, 1918.  
Operations Against Mouizon—Nov. 5 to Nov. 6, 1918.  
Operations South and West of Sedan—Nov. 7 to Nov. 9, 1918.  
March on Coblenz by Bridgehead—Nov. 17 to Nov. 18, 1918.  
Prisoners Captured—165 officers; 11,304 men.  
Total Advance Against Resistance—51 kilometers.  
Artillery Pieces Captured—281; machine-guns, 576.  
Division Insignia—Crimson figure 1 (one); khaki background.

Chosen because first numeral represents number of Division, also many of its subsidiary organizations.

Also, as proudly claimed, because it was the first division to arrive in France: first to hold a sector: first to fire a shot at the Germans: first to attack: first to conduct a raid: first to be raided: first to capture prisoners: first to inflict casualties: first to suffer casualties: first to be cited, singly and in General Orders: first in number of Division in Corps and Army.

JOHN J. PERSHING,  
Commander-in-Chief,  
American Expeditionary Forces.

(Copy of Letter from Headquarters.)

A. E. F.  
Headquarters 1st Division.  
Oct. 10th.

### GERMANY'S TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST DIVISION.

Today a captured colonel of the German Army arrived at our Division cage. He was cold, hungry, and broken in spirit. After four years of severe fighting and constant service in his army, he was taken prisoner by the victorious First Division. The following is the substance of his remarks:

"Yesterday I received orders to hold the ground at all costs. The American barrage advanced towards my position and the work of your artillery was marvelous. The barrage was so dense that it was impossible for us to move out of our dugouts. Following this barrage closely were the troops of the First Division. I saw them forge ahead and knew that all was lost. All night I remained in my dugout, hoping vainly that something would happen that would permit me to join my army. This morning your troops found me and here I am, after four years of fighting, a prisoner. Yesterday I knew that the First Division was opposite us and I knew that we would have to put up the hardest fight of the war. The First Division is wonderful and the German Army knows it. We did not believe that within five years the AMERICANS could develop a division such as the First Division. The work of its infantry and artillery is worthy of the best armies in the world."

The above tribute to the First Division comes from one of Germany's seasoned field officers. It is with great pleasure that we learn that even our enemies recognize the courage, valor, and efficiency of our troops. The work done by the First Division during the past few days will go down in history as one of those memorable events which will live in the hearts of the AMERICAN people for generations to come.

Every member of this command well deserves the enthusiastic congratulations and the high respect in which it is held by our comrades in arms, and by the entire American nation.

The above will be published to every member of this command.

By command of Major-General Summerall:

THOS. R. GOWENLOCK,  
Captain, Infantry, U.S.A.  
A. C. of S., G. 2.

believer in the science of numbers to this extent, that he has exactly eighteen wounds on his body, which he got in the Argonne Forest on October 5, 1918, when a shell exploded within five feet of him, lifted him into the air and dropped him eighteen feet away from the spot where he

nose, and about his head. He wears the three-barred service chevron and wound stripe. He served for twenty months overseas, landing at St. Nazaire June 27, 1917. On the way across the boys originated a new style of shower-bath on shipboard. The hose used to

wash the deck threw too strong a direct stream for enjoyment and the Brainy Bowers of the Company suggested that the hose be turned to the ceiling and the men get their bath from the descending spray. The idea worked like a charm and they were having a splendid time until an alarm sounded a submarine warning and they had to beat it for the deck, clad in nothing but life-preservers. Pvt. Coleham said it was cold waiting up there in an east wind for two hours. It probably was.



*A New Kind of Shower-bath*

When the boat landed the First Division were sent to training camps where they put in many days hard drill. Austrian prisoners held at these training camps were at that time so surprised to see the Americans in France that they would not believe our fellows were anything but disguised Englishmen. The German soldiers were equally incredulous. They had been told by their officers that three American



*In a Cold East Wind*

boats had indeed started to cross the Atlantic but had all been sunk off Sandy Hook. The Eighteenth Infantry left port for Houllencourt for further training. This camp was so near the lines that the guns could be heard. The main job at Houllencourt was to learn the details of trench warfare, and all about barb-wire in war. From this camp they went to Washington Center, and from there to the front on October 21, 1917. After four days in the trenches the first Hun was taken prisoner by the Eighteenth Infantry. This looks like slow action compared with what happened when things really began to sizzle, but these beginnings are interesting to the student of the war. Noth-



ing happened of great interest up to November 3. They were raided by the Hun. American losses were eight captured, three killed and wounded. The first gas was met on November 3. They went back then for six weeks' training in manoeuvring, which ended January 10. Then to the Toul front, where Pvt. Coleham and some of the enlisted men unearthed a choice bag of German officers and men from a sort of dug-out clubhouse, with drinks in abundance and women to entertain their leisure. The Eighteenth took the whole lot in as prisoners, but Pvt. Coleham maintains silence when asked if he turned in *all* the wine. He quotes a text of Scripture to the effect that "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn." However, the Eighteenth caught fits in that Toul section. The position was in a valley, giving the Hun a wonderful chance to use gas effectively. From this front the Eighteenth went to Picardy, where they were in gas for fourteen hours at a stretch. The Huns at that time were using mustard gas exclusively. May 28, the Eighteenth went over the top for the first time, taking Cantigny, and holding what the French had said was "possible to take, but impossible to hold." The First Division did it. It was here, in this engagement that the brave Col. Macy was killed, and with him fifty more good men, in the three counter-attacks of the Hun. Three times the French had taken Cantigny, and three times had lost it, but the Yanks never let it go, once they got it. July 18 the boys of the Eighteenth were sent in to back up the French. They forced the Hun to retreat. July 20 the Eighteenth captured a whole battalion of Germans, officers and men, staff included. The Eighteenth had captured a railroad here in the Soissons district. The Germans did not know that their support had been driven beyond the railroad and this battalion came up to reinforce and was captured. This haul included sixty-eight pieces of artillery and many machine guns. Here in the Soissons district Pvt. Coleham took prisoner a woman machine gunner, who was chained to the gun, but seemed to be working it willingly enough and had caused much damage. From Soissons the Eighteenth went to Soijeras sector, August 7-24. Things were quiet here and there were few casualties. From Soijeras they went to St. Mihiel, taking many prisoners from September 12 to 16, with guns and provisions, but losing few men. From St. Mihiel to the Argonne-Meuse sector, October 4. Here they backed and replaced the Thirty-fifth French Division, going right through the Germans and taking many prisoners, provisions and guns. Here Pvt. Coleham got his eighteen wounds in a lump. He was sent to Bordeaux first, as he seemed to have a faint chance of pulling through. There he did so well that they concluded he would still live to die in his bed of old age some hundred years hence, so they sent him home to the U. S. A. He is in Ward 11, this Base Hospital, and getting back to fighting trim. He comes from Fort Wayne, Indiana. His family have moved to Denver, Colorado. As soon as possible he will be discharged that he may reunite them. They will be very proud of him. They have good right to be proud.

4. Sergeant Robert L. Grant enlisted June 11, 1916, during the Mexican Border trouble. He also is one of "The Glorious First Division," his Company, "F," 26th Infantry, being made a part of the First Division for overseas. At this time there was no such thing as an Embarkation Camp, the boys going directly from the Mexican Border to Hoboken, embarking

on the Lenape, a coal liner. Sgt. Grant saw his first hard fighting at the Cantigny front. He said the Huns were dirty fighters, crying "Kamerad", holding up their hands in token of surrender, and then working their machine guns by a sort of strap attached to their feet. But he said our fellows got wise very rapidly and took no chances of treachery. In clearing the Huns from their dug-outs Sgt. Grant thinks the hand grenade the best of all possible tools. He would call at the mouth of a dug-out, in German, "How many of you down there?" The answer might be "Five", "Ten", or "Twenty". Sgt. Grant's repartee never lost its freshness of humor, he said. It never palled upon him. According to the number in the dug-out he dropped one or two grenades down the hole, advising the inmates that they could divide it up among them, and if there wasn't enough to go round he could spare a little more. From Cantigny to Soissons, to aid in the Marne counter-attacks, July 18 to July 21—famous dates, these!—from there to Soijeras; from



*Sgt. Grant's Sight in One Eye is Still Good*

Soijeras to St. Mihiel. In the Argonne-Meuse offensive Grant's good fortune deserted him. He was hit by shrapnel, receiving many body wounds, and losing his right eye. He was moved October 17 to the American Red Cross Hospital in Paris to be operated upon. There he recovered from his wounds but it is hard for him to get used to the loss of his good right eye. He was sent to Bordeaux for light duty, and on February 12, 1919, sailed for the United States on the Orizaba, landing on February 22, Washington's birthday. The Orizaba docked at Hoboken and the wounded men were transferred to Camp Merritt Base Hospital. Sgt. Grant is only twenty-three years old. His home is in Beloit, Wisconsin. He is gaining in weight and says that his clothes don't fit him any longer. He will be sent to the camp most adjacent to his home as soon as it is best to move him. He is cheerful and the best kind of a companion.

(To be continued)



## ADDRESSING LETTERS RIGHTLY

*How Relatives Writing to Patients in Base Hospital Can Help the Service*

*By Sgt. John Ronahan, Med. Dept., Base Hospital Post Office*

When an overseas patient in this Base Hospital writes a letter home, he addresses it correctly and it is delivered promptly. It is answered as promptly, but the envelope is not correctly addressed, and there results some difficulty in locating the addressee. Valuable time is lost. The patient in the hospital worries because there is no answer to his letter, and the writer at home begins shortly to worry because no acknowledgment of the reply has been received. All of this annoyance, or a great part of it, could be avoided if the people at home would make careful note of the address given by the patient in his first letter home after his arrival at this Base Hospital. He will always give the number of his ward in this hospital, as the distinguishing mark of his address. If the home correspondent will take the trouble to repeat that number of the ward as part of the address on the envelope, when writing an answer to the patient's letter, much time will be saved in making delivery. Even if the patient has been transferred to another ward, the matter of locating him quickly is expedited by using the old number of his ward as part of his address. One of the chief perplexities of the postmaster at Camp Merritt, which is shared in a measure by the postmaster at this Base Hospital, is the quick locating of men for whom letters have arrived, the addresses of which do not carry the block number of the man addressed. There are cases, of course, where letters are written from home to greet overseas men on their arrival at Camp Merritt, when no information could have been sent forward as to the correct number of the block to which the soldier was assigned in camp. As a rule, however, the soldier has written immediately upon his arrival in camp, giving the number of the block in which his barracks is situated. If that block number is not repeated on the envelope of the letter written from home to that soldier, then the post office staff at Camp Merritt has difficulty in tracing the soldier to his right location for the delivery of the letter.

It must be remembered by those at home that Camp Merritt will accommodate 40,000 men. The mail received at Camp Merritt post office must therefore be widely distributed to reach the men composing these many units. There is naturally a surplus of mail addressed to a camp of 40,000 men, compared with the mail that would arrive at the post office of a city of 40,000 people. The conditions are such that almost every man of that 40,000 receives and sends letters quite frequently to friends throughout the country. The post office of an army camp is therefore a very lively branch of the Service at all times. Anything that can be done by relatives in the way of expediting and assisting the post office service of the camp, by taking particular care to address letters clearly, fully and exactly, will be to the advantage of all parties concerned. Therefore, to summarize this caution in a few words, it might be put in this form: If the soldier is at Camp Merritt, write, if possible, on the envelope the number of his block. If the soldier is in hospital, write on the envelope the words "Camp Merritt Base Hospital," and, if possible, the number of his ward.



# The Story of the Jewish Welfare Board in Camp and Hospital

*Written specially for THE MESS-KIT*

*By Abram E. Kallman*

Assistant Field Representative in charge of The Jewish Welfare Board at Camp Merritt, N. J.

## INTRODUCTION

The Jewish Welfare Board was organized with the avowed purpose of helping "America Win the War." In the first days of the war, the government perceived the necessity of calling upon the Religious Welfare Agencies to co-operate with it. It sought this co-operation because it recognized the value of morale in warfare. It set itself to thinking out the problems of war not only in terms of ships, guns, munitions and supplies, but also in terms of health, decency, personal

does not understand the things we cherish—the enrichment of national life through the conservation of the unique character and the deepening of the distinctive sentiments in the soul life of every people and group.

From a miniature organization, a little over a year ago, the Jewish Welfare Board has grown to be a national factor in the morale scheme of the United States Army. Trained Field Representatives, men of experience and of proven character, are carrying on this work throughout

camp, has on the whole kept pace with the growth and expansion of the National Organization. From one worker, stationed somewhere in a corner of a hospitable "Y," in the early days of the fall of 1917, it has expanded into a staff of ten workers, housed in a handsomely and cheerily furnished building that carries a home atmosphere and a warm home welcome, equipped with all facilities for offering hospitality and rendering service to all the men. The building was formally dedicated in December, 1918, and is cen-



THE HOME OF THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD AT CAMP MERRITT, N. J.

*Where All Men in Uniform Meet With the Heartiest Hospitality*

improvement of the men and contentment. It is to this view on the part of the government that we owe the Jewish Welfare Board, the first nationally recognized Jewish organization in the history of America.

In American camps, at least three distinct organizations are interpreting America, not only with the sanction of the War Department but under its mandate. The War Department has bidden the Y. M. C. A. to Christianize the Christians; to the Knights of Columbus it says, "Care for the Catholic Boys," and to the Jewish Welfare Board, "Minister to your Jewish men in the light of their Jewish traditions and as heirs to your common patrimony." In a real sense, thus we are real functionaries of the Government. It is a work meant to serve all men, to be sure, but the J. W. B. wears the "Mogen David," the K. of C. man, his Cross, and the Y. M. C. A. man, the triangle. That member of any group who is not proud to wear his insignia is not alone un-Jewish or un-Christian, but un-American. He

all the Army camps in this country. Overseas in France and in Germany with the Army of Occupation, these men, "good fellows all," exert themselves to their utmost to lessen the strain of discontentment and of impatience.

## ORGANIZING THE J. W. B. ACTIVITIES IN CAMP

In a history of this nature, embracing the operations in detail of an organization of world-wide activities, we feel that interest would attach to statistics showing the amount of money expended in this work and how expended. We propose, therefore, in the next issue of THE MESS-KIT to present something in the form of a financial statement that the reader may grasp the significance of the strength behind this organization which is doing good for the sake of good among our comrades in uniform in camp and hospital. In this number we shall hint at the general nature of the work only.

Jewish Welfare Work, at Camp Mer-

trally located on Knickerbocker Road and East Sixth Street, easily accessible to the men in all parts of the camp.

An attractive reception room greets the visitor as he enters the hut. As you pass along, you come to a spacious and beautiful auditorium, with a seating capacity of many hundreds. Religious services are held here on Friday evenings, Saturday mornings and all holidays. Here, each night, an elaborate entertainment is offered, a vaudeville program, a concert, an evening of song or jollity in some form or another. But the program of activities does not end here. Personal service, in its complex variety of needs and wants, is afforded the men. This branch of service includes legal advice, advice and aid in financial affairs, assistance with the military authorities, and various forms of personal service. The men are visited at the barracks, little comforts given them, and they are invited personally to visit the building and enjoy the fullness of its privileges. On Wednesday and Sunday, visiting days, the



building serves as a hostess house for the meeting of men with their relatives. Educational classes are conducted, magazines and newspapers are always on file, games are spread on the tables, smokes, an ever-ready treat at the desk. There is always a worker on hand to welcome the new man and to extend to him the hospitality of the hut. Souvenirs in great variety are offered to the men.

At this time, particular stress is laid on the program of entertainments. Every night there is a show held at the auditorium, and the ladies from Nyack and Paterson and other neighboring communities are there to dance with the boys, to serve them refreshments and to act as hostesses. Thursday night is dubbed "Paterson Night." Similarly, Friday night is known as "Nyack Night." On Saturday evenings a party of one hundred men or more are taken on buses to Paterson where the local branch of the Jewish Welfare Board receives the boys in the rooms of the Hebrew Free School. Boys who land here, after a long and strenuous period of overseas service and after the hardships of the ocean trip, appreciate a morsel of home-made lunch, a little entertainment, just a taste of home life.

### THE J. W. B. SERVICE AT CAMP MERRITT BASE HOSPITAL

It is in the hospital that the real service of the Welfare Agency finds itself. It is in the wards that a welfare worker forms friendships that will last for months, if not for years, it is there that he is really made to feel, at every step and at every moment, that his presence is really wanted, that his service is truly appreciated, that life is really worth while, that welfare work is indeed a privilege; and his own nature broadens out, it deepens and becomes more truly human, more refined and more elevated by the very sight of the crucible of human suffering; and by his own efforts to mollify and to soften the sorrow and pain of his fellow men.

Of course, hospital service and visitation are and must be non-sectarian. The sick chaps are men, men of all creeds, races and colors. Sickness and disease have discriminated against none of these and have been partial to none. The Jewish Welfare worker meets them as man meets man, and looks for no credentials. Whether it is a kind word, or some smokes, or some sheets of stationery on which to write to the anxious home folks, or whether it is fruit or some goodies, it is offered to all with a cheery heart, and with a willing hand. The men know this and they accept all in the spirit of comradeship. Now and then the Jewish Welfare worker is called upon to perform a distinctive office of a Jewish religious nature for some patient of the Jewish faith. Then he acts as the Jewish Chaplain would, were he there. He sits at the bedside of the dying patient, holds his fevered hand, prays over him and with him, and strives to render his last moments restful and consecrated by the ministration of religion.

At Camp Merritt Base Hospital the Jewish Welfare Board worker visits the wards daily, without exception, with his stock of stationery, smokes, candies, fruits and goodies. We add little khaki-clad Bibles, Prayer Books when required and then with picture cards, holiday greetings and a goodly stock of smiles we feel we are accomplishing quite a bit. Even more welcome to the boys are the lady visitors who likewise call upon them daily. Yes,

they come and quite frequently from that blessed little town of Nyack, representing the J. W. B. branch there, and from the Metropolitan city, representing the Camp Merritt Auxiliary of Washington Heights. These delegations come quite loaded every day with anything and everything that the patient at the Base Hospital may desire. For the convalescent, in addition to the distribution of their daily needs, entertainments and concerts are arranged, with music, singing and vaudeville.

Perhaps the most significant service was rendered the men during those grim and grouchy days of the "Flu." Of course, the immediate service was rendered by the doctors, orderlies, nurses, clerks and wardmasters. Many a doctor or nurse, for that matter, may well have said: "Yes, we are risking our lives a thousand times a day, but that's what we are here for," but the civilian agencies performed their full measure of duty too. They were all there and all worked in unison, the "Y" and the K. of C. and the chaplains, and the A. L. A. and the J. W. B.; all under the generous and efficient guidance of the Red Cross. There was lots to do and it was a sight to behold the men as they carried about their grips filled with necessities to satisfy the enormous and inexhaustible demand for oranges, fruits of all kinds, chewing gum, and tobacco, and stationery to write home on, to draw pictures on. And then there were the depressed parents, brothers, husbands, sweethearts, to be received with soft words of comfort and cheer.

And it is a situation such as this, that faced the Jewish welfare worker in this Base Hospital as well as in many other hospitals. But why speak in general terms when one is happily placed in a position to narrate real incidents of one's personal experiences, when one is able to marshal a host of facts and of concrete happenings? The welfare worker, of all men, is best able to tell of acts of true heroism and fine deeds of true chivalry of the men, whom he regards as his wards; of them, whom he looks upon as his co-workers and associates; of the patients in the hospital, and men in the medical detachments.

One must take off his hat to the living, to the men and women in the hospital detachment, and pay tribute to their self sacrificing spirit. They labored without murmur, with the rigors of the ancient Israelites in the days of the Pharaohs. They saved human lives in the days of the epidemic, often at the expense of their own. We are happy, however, that God has spared many and today our souls thrill with exultation because of their splendid response to duty's high call.

The next incident must be told by the worker himself, as he felt it in his own soul:

"There was a boy I became acquainted with casually as I offered him a stick of gum. Somehow we took to one another. I brought him an orange once and then again. He placed his hand in mine. He told me his father was a Baptist, but he was not a good Christian. I looked into his clear frank eyes, and said to him: 'But you are a decent man.' 'Yes,' he answered, and his face lit up with a beautiful radiance, as I was moved from my heart to instruct him that the Father of us all cared not whether he was Jew or Christian, but that he was a fine, clean man and soldier. His last wish was to have his sweetheart's letters forwarded to her, as they were too sacred for strangers to read. His beautiful courtesy gripped my soul. I lost a friend whom I was

learning to admire, when he passed away before my eyes, the other day. I had only known him for three days."

The welfare worker has a very high opinion of character of the patients, his wards and friends. For nowhere can one meet men so solicitous of the peace of mind of their folks at home. They take all means and precautions to keep them from knowing that they are patients at the hospital. They all write home cheery and encouraging letters. Never before has the writer met so many blessed falsehoods and so much righteous lying that he could countenance with all his heart.

There is a certain knack of doing hospital visitation well. One may say that it really is an art in itself. There are no methods, no defined principles that can be explained. And so the hospital worker will best tell of his work as he recalls the routine of his daily visits and the experiences and incidents that fall to his lot on this day or on that. Were he to be interviewed, he would very likely tell his story in some such fashion as this:

I come into the ward with the grip filled with supplies, and with a pleasant face and a genuine smile to greet the men. I pass from bed to bed, sit down at a bedside now and then to write a letter home for some poor chap, who has not learned the art, or who is too sick to write for himself. I offer a newspaper or magazine to some patients. I sit down and have a chat with others. Some want to pay for little things that are offered them. Thus a chap who sees you for the first time will ask to buy a pack of cigarettes: his face darkens as he is told that there are none for sale; but lights happily up, when he is given one. Some will not accept anything if payment is refused. But a little diplomacy and you have won the day. For the Jewish Welfare Board will not sell to the men, but will gladly give whatever it has to offer.

One comes across, here and there, in a ward, a foreigner, who hardly understands a word of English, and naturally feels lonesome and forlorn. The Jewish Welfare worker renders him a real service when he speaks to him in his own language, and writes home for him, in his own tongue, be it Yiddish, Russian, or Polish; or speaks to the nurse or to the Ward Surgeon for him; or just chats with him and comforts him.

The J. W. B. man often forms lasting friendships. Personally I have often become attached to entire wards. In fact there is one ward, which has adopted me or which I have adopted. It is presided over by a young surgeon who is looked upon by the patients as a big brother. He runs errands for them, even moves their beds, himself. In short, a real pal to the men in his ward. Naturally he is their idol.

(To be continued)

## Jews Win Furloughs

**Announcement that furloughs will be granted during the Passover holidays to all Jews in the army stationed in the United States is made in a communication from the Adjutant General's office.**



# The Knights of Columbus in Camp and Hospital

By W. O. Reed

*in Charge of K. of C. Work at the Base Hospital*

## Introduction

The Knights of Columbus were admitted to war work in this country June 12, 1917, and immediately set about forming an organization to handle a big job in a big way. One million dollars was the amount set as probably needed and this was raised by an assessment of two dollars on each member and further contributions. The necessities of the situation increased very rapidly and the amount needed was soon raised to three million, afterwards to seven and a half, then to ten, until finally, for the year commencing last July 1, a budget of fifty million dollars was presented. This was cut down

This does not include any of the money collected in the United War Work Drive.

In addition to this it ought to be said that a very large proportion of the overhead charge has been maintained by the Order out of the General Fund, and not charged to the moneys collected for the war; this includes practically all the work of direction. Furthermore, the free service of councils and members of the Order at large has been a tremendous factor in keeping down the expenses.

The work is not all finished; a call comes this week for two hundred more secretaries for overseas. This is only an evidence of the increase of work and re-

service on the transports bringing the soldiers home and has increased its activities in the hospitals throughout the country. Service houses have been opened in most of the principal cities and they have been uniformly successful. In many places, these were buildings especially obtained for the purpose, and in other places councils have used their buildings or permanent quarters, but everywhere throughout the country there has been the same spirit of co-operation and helpfulness.

The policy of not conducting a canteen and of not using the service of women has been maintained from the beginning and has avoided a danger and weakness



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL AT CAMP MERITT, N. J.

*Where "Everybody is Welcome"*

to thirty million (of which the Committee on Special War Activities of the National Catholic War Council was to have five million) the reduction being made by agreement between the War Department and the Administrative Committee of the National Catholic War Council.

Despite the handicap of late entry into the work, we have made great progress and today we are operating at 200 points, including France, Italy, Belgium, Germany, England and Scotland. Buildings have also been erected or construction authorized in Porto Rico, Canal Zone and the Philippines.

## Financial Condition

Receipts are \$17,970,952.31 and the expenditures and liabilities \$14,007,109.54.

sponsibility, and requisitions in similar proportion have been received for supplies.

In addition to their compensation the overseas secretaries have been protected with a five thousand dollar insurance policy in the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York. Similar protection has been afforded "K. of C." chaplains overseas.

## Working for Demobilized Men

The Order has taken up the employment of demobilized soldiers and sailors through its councils and the secretaries in the camps and cantonments, and has already received most favorable commendation from the Department in Washington. It has also given large and extended

which has beset some of the other societies engaged in this work. Despite the fact that we were criticized in the beginning for sending forth secretaries without a special training and education, we feel proud to point to the record of our nearly two thousand secretaries here and overseas, and the words of the returning soldiers and of the public press have more than justified the wonderful spirit of our secretaries and our careful choice.

Books of account have been regularly and carefully kept and have already passed the audit of the Insurance Department of the State of Connecticut, which in connection with its examination of the affairs of the order as a fraternal benefit society, checked up its activity in war matters, and gives a most favorable report of the



condition. In addition to the foregoing semi-annual audits are made by certified public accountants employed for the purpose by the Board of Directors.

Despite the large expenditure of the Order's funds for war work, it is in a most prosperous condition, and paid out last year in cash to the beneficiaries of its members nearly two million dollars, without in any way impairing its financial stability and the soundness of its insurance system.

As at present advised, the call for our work will not soon end, and there has been submitted a budget calling for expenditure of \$39,253,852.29 for the fifteen months ending December 31, 1919.

In accordance with the promise to the public, our books are open at all times. We are already preparing a statement for the public showing all receipts and expenditures.

#### *K. of C. Huts*

The first work in this country was in the cantonments. So-called huts or buildings were erected and secretaries furnished, and especial care taken to secure chaplains for the spiritual needs of the men.

In each building, just back of the stage, an altar was erected and Mass offered every morning, and there were always some of the boys attending. This was generally around reveille, and many is the boy that has gone without his breakfast in order that he might attend Mass, and from there hurry back to his Company street to "fall in." There is one thing men of our faith in uniform love to do and that is to serve Mass. And what an impression it does make on the nurses, officers and the other enlisted men to see one of their own men serving as an altar boy! Each hut is provided with athletic equipment of every description, such as baseballs, bats, gloves, tennis balls, nets, medicine balls, footballs, volleyballs, indoor baseballs, and also player pianos, piano rolls, phonographs, records, writing desks, envelopes, letterheads, pens, pencils, ink, books and magazines of all kinds. Entertainments and sporting shows are arranged for each night in the week, and it can be truly said that the very best talent in the world have volunteered their services and performed for the amusement of the boys on many occasions, some of the performances far excelling many of the world-famous Broadway productions.

#### *Overseas Secretaries Exceed 1,000*

After seeing that the boys in the American camps had been provided with every means of amusement and supplies of all kinds, William J. Mulligan, Chairman, and W. P. Larkin, director of the Committee on War Activities, Dec. 1, 1917, sent overseas secretaries specially qualified for this work, and to-day it takes four figures to write down the total number that has been sent.

#### *Creature Comforts*

Another splendid service is that rendered the boys on their arrival from over there at Hoboken. Every boat is met by a squad of K. of C. Secretaries and each soldier receives his Creature Comforts. The secretaries are ever on the alert to act as messenger boys, and just as soon as the telegram is written it is taken immediately to the telegraph office and in a very short time is on its way to the boy's home folks announcing his arrival in the United States. This has grown to be one of the largest branches of the Activities.

#### *Camp Merritt Work*

The Knights of Columbus on War Activities began Welfare Work in Camp Merritt almost simultaneously with Military Operations. Permission was obtained from the Commanding Officer at the camp to use a barrack building on Grant Avenue during the construction of the present building, which is located at the corner of Sixth street and Broadway. The building was finished about the middle of December, 1917, and was officially dedicated February 3 and 4, 1918.

#### *Building Extensions*

On Sunday, February 3, a Solemn Pontifical High Mass was held and the formal turning over of the building to the Government was accomplished. State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus, John F. O'Neill, made the presentation speech and Major General Haan, of the 32d Division, who represented Major General Shanks, delivered the speech of acceptance. The building was so well attended that on the recommendation of General Secretary Thomas H. Neary, the National Committee has since erected two additional buildings and extended the main building. The latter building is the gathering point for thousands of soldiers daily, especially in the evenings, when high class entertainments are staged. Between Fifth and Sixth streets a beautifully and comfortably appointed room is specially equipped as a reading room and library.

The furnishings in the main building were given by the Ladies' Auxiliary of Jersey City, the Ladies' Auxiliary of Ridgewood furnishing the library building. The buildings are open to all soldiers, regardless of religious belief, as the large sign over the door implies. It reads, "Everybody Welcome," and means what it says.

#### *The Ladies' Auxiliary*

Every Wednesday and Sunday afternoon the Ladies' Auxiliary of Jersey City visit the main building and make hot coffee and serve coffee and cake to the boys. Chaplains are at the buildings at all hours and Masses are said every week day and Sundays at 7, 8, 9 and 10 o'clock.

#### *The Basketball Court*

Perhaps what is considered the most popular phase of the activities at the present time is the basketball court in the main building, many hours of practice being spent each day by the ambitious players who endeavor to fit themselves for the very spirited contests that are held on the court almost nightly.

(To be continued)



#### *MEDICAL OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT DECORATED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT*

A number of American army medical officers and men have received decorations from the British Government for bravery and distinguished service in the war, according to advices received by the Surgeon General from the War Office in London.

Maj. Emanuel Goldstein, M. C., of New York, and Capt. George Patrick O'Malley, M. R. C., of 7432 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, the latter attached to the 7th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment, have been made honorary companions of the Distinguished Service Order.

The Military Cross was awarded to the following:

1st Lt. Thomas Eberett Griffith, M. R. C., 16 5th St. S. E., Washington, D. C.

Lt. James W. Aldridge, M. R. C., Covington, Ind.

Lt. Hugo Alexander, M. R. C., 616 River Terrace, Hoboken, N. J.

Lt. Wilmet Ayres, M. R. C., attached to 5th Battalion, Border Regiment, Bedford, Pa.

1st Lt. Irving Francis Barnett, M. R. C., 3816 Wilton Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Lt. Wm. Hatfield Caine, M. C., R. F. D. No. 3, Willoughby, Ohio.

1st Lt. Wm. Andrew R. Chapin, M. R. C., attached to 6th Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment, 6 Maple St., Springfield, Mass.

1st Lt. Earl Ray Chamness, M. R. C., 618 E. 75th St., Chicago, Ill.

Lt. Edward A. Christoffersen, M. R. C., attached to 2nd Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 2754 Washington Building, Chicago, Ill.

1st Lt. Milton B. Coffman, M. C., 704 Chamber of Commerce Building, Richmond, Va.

1st Lt. Fred W. Comstock, M. R. C., 552 Howard Ave., New Haven, Conn.

Lt. Neil A. Dayton, M. R. C., Burton, Ohio.

1st Lt. Griffith A. Demay, M. R. C., Indianola, Neb.

1st Lt. Louis W. Desprez, M. R. C., St. Joseph's Hospital, Memphis, Tenn.

1st Lt. Roy A. Douglass, M. R. C., Nashville, Tenn., City Hospital.

1st Lt. John F. Dooling, M. R. C., 943 St. John's Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Lt. Thomas L. Doyle, M. C., Hahneman Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.

1st Lt. William B. Evans, M. R. C., attached to 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards, 418 E. Broad St., Chester, Pa.

1st Lt. Lawrence B. Farrior, M. R. C., attached to 1st Battalion, Scots Guards, Mobile, Ala.

1st Lt. Roy G. Giles, M. R. C., Belton, Texas.

1st Lt. Alexander J. Gillis, M. R. C., 240 W. Lanvale St., Baltimore, Md.

1st Lt. Terrance J. Hanlon, M. R. C., 724 McKean Ave., Donora, Pa.

Lt. Allen G. Heard, M. R. C., 1927 Ave. H, Galveston, Texas.

1st Lt. Wm. Y. Hollingsworth, M. R. C., attached to 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, Sparrows Point, Md.

1st Lt. James H. Keeling, M. R. C., attached to 38th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps, 140 Washington Ave., Albany, N. Y.

Lt. Andrew Knox, M. R. C., 501 E. Alleghany Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

Lt. George S. Lambeth, M. R. C., attached to 4th Battalion, South Lancashire Regiment (Territorial Force), Shelbyville, Ky.

Lt. Burton Maltby, M. C., Liberty, Mo.

1st Lt. Robert N. Macguffie, M. R. C., 69 Howe Ave., Passaic, N. J.



(Continued from page 17)

Lt. Winthrop E. McGinley, M. R. C., New London, Conn.

Lt. William G. Milholland, M. R. C., attached to 11th Battalion, Royal Scots, Presbyterian Hospital, New Orleans, La.

1st Lt. Daniel J. Murphy, M. R. C., Charity Hospital, New Orleans, La.

1st Lt. Charles Q. North, M. R. C., General Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.

Lt. Clarence E. Northcutt, M. R. C., Lexington, Okla.

Lt. Edward L. Patterson, M. R. C., attached to 15th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, Barnwell, S. C.

Lt. Oscar H. Peterson, M. R. C., Lamoni, Iowa.

1st Lt. Paul J. Preston, M. R. C., 301 Physicians and Surgeons Building, Minneapolis Minn.

Lt. George H. Reddick, M. R. C., attached to 13th Battalion, Liverpool Regiment, Wabeno, Wis.

Lt. Angus J. Smith, M. C., attached to 2nd Battalion, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, Greenville, Fla.

Capt. Wm. Lester Smith, M. C., Toledo, Ill.

Lt. Fred Oscar Stone, M. R. C., attached to 4th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, Maynardville, Tenn.

1st Lt. Fenton Taylor, M. C., attached to 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, 130 E. 62nd St., New York City.

Capt. Lawrence M. Taylor, M. R. C., attached to 10th Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment, Tuxpam, Mexico.

1st Lt. Cassell C. Tucker, M. C., City Hospital, Boston, Mass.

1st Lt. Roy L. Vineyard, M. R. C., attached to 88th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps, Amarillo, Texas.

Lt. Lloyd E. Wurster, M. R. C., Linden, Pa.

The Bar to the Military Cross was awarded to the following:

1st Lt. James B. Clinton, M. C., Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.

1st Lt. Lawrence B. Farrier, M. C., Mobile, Ala.

Lt. Harold E. Foster, M. C., Castile, N. Y.

Enlisted men of the American Army connected with the medical service received the following decorations from the British Government:

Distinguished Conduct Medals to:

Pvt. James K. Faison, Medical Department, 118th Inf.

Pvt. 1/c Jacob Semberg, Sanitary Detachment, 106th Inf.

The Military Medal to:

Pvt. Wm. H. Coble, Ambulance Company 118.

Wagoner Wm. J. Evans, Field Hospital Co. No. 119, Dillon, S. C.

Pvt. 1/c Edward D. Jones, Ambulance Company 118.

Pvt. Wm. Franklin Jones, Medical Detachment, 118th Int., Abbeville, S. C.

Pvt. Ferman W. Keener, Ambulance Company 118.

Wagoner Charles B. Logan, Headquarters 105th Sanitary Train.

Pvt. Donald Mackay, 102nd Sanitary Train.

Pvt. 1/c Harold P. Malley, Sanitary Detachment, 107th Inf.

Pvt. Asher Manheim, 102nd Sanitary Train.

Pvt. Arthur Morris, Ambulance Company 118, 913 Broadway, Chelsea, Mass.

Pvt. 1/c Robert C. Rogers, Ambulance Company 118.

Pvt. Cecil Trammell, Ambulance Company 118.

Pvt. Clyde E. Parazine, Field Hospital No. 118.

## The Work of the Personnel Office, Camp Merritt Base Hospital

By 1st Lieut. Arthur F. Hoge, M. C., U. S. A., Personnel Adjutant

### FOREWORD

The Personnel Office force before its rapid expansion was composed of capable, intelligent and loyal men who realized that the successful and proper accomplishment of the work assigned to them was important to the patients in this hospital and necessary to the smooth functioning of the administrative branch of the institution. They realized that the prompt payment of the men in the hospital and prompt and persistent effort to adjust and secure payment of their allotments was of great importance in maintaining contentment and good morale and they were enthusiastic in doing their utmost to care for the vast volume of work thrown upon them. This spirit has created an "esprit de corps" in the Personnel Office that cannot be excelled and the

quality and amount of work done makes it possible for the man who belongs to the Personnel outfit to say with pride that he is in the Personnel Office.

The new men who have been assigned to the Personnel Office have, almost without exception, been imbued with the same enthusiasm and have possessed the necessary qualifications — intellect combined with industry. Because of this fact, the rapid expansion has occurred without confusion and the force may be likened in action to a smooth running high powered motor.

It has been a pleasure to have associated with me such a group of men as "the boys of the Personnel Office" and I am glad to have this opportunity of voicing my appreciation of their splendid work.



THE PERSONNEL OFFICE FORCE—CAMP MERRITT BASE HOSPITAL

Standing from left to right: Pvt. 1/c Edward J. Doherty, Pvt. Jacob Pfeffer, Pvt. Ernest C. Seward, Pvt. Budd E. Reynolds, Pvt. 1/c Charles Kesner, Pvt. 1/c David Bruestle, Pvt. Albert Schlatter, Pvt. 1/c Charles C. Hoy, Corp. Luther L. Reeves, Pvt. Glendower Gregory, Pvt. Mugurditch Kazanjian, Pvt. George J. Daley, Pvt. William H. Hall, Pvt. 1/c Ben M. Creel, Pvt. 1/c Enochs W. Carlson, Pvt. 1/c Robert W. Proctor, Pvt. Evald O. Svendsen, Pvt. John J. O'Connell, Pvt. 1/c William H. Flaherty, Pvt. Warren B. Tolbert. Seated from left to right: Corp. Francis Connor, Corp. Franklin C. Hazard, Sgt. Reuben M. Anderson, 1st Lieut. Arthur F. Hoge, M. C., Personnel Adjutant; 2nd Lieut. Carroll L. Tollett, S. C., Asst. Personnel Adjutant; Sgt. 1/c Chris E. Muhl, Corp. Joseph F. Clement, Corp. George W. Thompson

## The Routine of the Personnel Office

By Corporal Joseph F. Clement, Personnel Office, Base Hospital

Perhaps there is no office in Camp Merritt that has expanded so fast and so efficiently as the Personnel Office of this hospital. The cause for this remarkable expansion has been due to the influx of overseas patients into this hospital ever since December 11, 1918, when the first consignment consisting of 1190 patients

arrived from the Steamship Sierra. Practically all of these patients as well as all subsequent arrivals from overseas were without service records of any kind. The only records which some of them possessed were pay-books which enabled them to draw money from the Quartermaster whenever they were near one, in



France. They were of no use in this country, however. All of these patients were in arrears of pay anywhere from one month to fourteen months. Nearly all of them had five or six months back pay due them. It was at this time that the Personnel Office was called upon to pay all overseas patients which passed through this hospital.

Up to this time the Personnel Office had confined its activities to the paying of the Detachment members, executing allotments and insurance policies for those eligible to execute them, making reports of changes, correspondence relative to allotments, insurance, pay and other miscellaneous work. The Personnel force then consisted of 1st Lieut. Arthur F. Hoge, M. C., U. S. A., Personnel Adjutant, Sergeants (now first class) Muhl and Allard, Pvt. 1st class (now Sergeant) Anderson, Pvts. 1st class (now Corporals) Connors and Hazard, Pvts. (now Corporals) Clement and Thompson. To this limited force fell the burden of paying thousands of overseas patients. It was first decided to pay each patient on an individual voucher (W. D. Form 369), but it was at once realized that such a procedure would not do. The time required to make the service record pay-card and voucher was too great.

At this critical period Lieut. Hoge requested that typists and clerical workers be furnished the Personnel Office in order that the task of paying the patients be made easier for those concerned and expedited. In compliance with the request the following men were assigned to the Personnel force: Sergeants Heard, Solomon, Noren, Teel, Henkelman, Corporals Reeves, Lyman and West. Pvts. 1st class Proctor, Flaherty, Kestner, Hoy, Carlson, Harrison, Creel, Werner, Doherty, Bennett and Bruestle, and Pvts. O'Connell, Puhak, Daly, Gregory, Svendsen and Tolbert. The following Privates from the Quartermaster were also assigned to the Personnel Office for duty: Reynolds, Hall, Schlatter, Seward, Pfeffer and Kanzanjian. 2nd Lieut. Carroll L. Tollett, S. C., U. S. A., was permanently assigned as Assistant Personnel Adjutant, while 1st Lieut. William H. McCallion, M. C., U. S. A., was temporarily assigned as Assistant Personnel Adjutant. The task which then confronted Lieuts. Hoge, Tollett and the older members of the force was the immediate training of this new personnel. It was necessary that an idea of the work and what confronted the Personnel force be given these new men. Thus they were coached and guided, watched and taught for a short time. Of course their work was carefully supervised by the members of the older force.

In the meanwhile an affidavit form had been compiled from which a temporary service record and pay-card were made. The payroll was then compiled from the service record and pay-card. Each patient in arrears of pay was given the privilege of executing one of these affidavits. The new members of the Personnel force were scattered throughout the different wards of the hospital where they executed affidavits for the patients, and then forwarded them to the Personnel Office for supervision. From these affidavits the payrolls were eventually made. It is interesting to note the system instituted by Lieut. Hoge for the expeditious payment of all concerned. It was necessary that all data essential be gotten accurately and quickly. For this purpose Sub-Personnel Offices had to be established to take care of the members of

this large force. These offices were located in Block 17 LL 2 in charge of 1st Lieut. William H. McCallion, M. C., U. S. A., in Block 21 I 1, in charge of 2nd Lieut. Carroll L. Tollett, S. C., U. S. A., in Sun-parlor of Barrack VI, in charge of Corporal Thompson, in Sun-parlor of Barrack VII in charge of Sergeant Teel, and in Sun-parlor of Barrack II in charge of Corporal West. Then the following men were assigned to the work for which they were best fitted: Sergeants 1st class Muhl and Allard, general supervisors and advisors of all the work concerned. Sergeant Anderson, Corporals Clement, Lyman, West, Privates 1st class Proctor, Bruestle and Hoy, payroll makers. Corporal Connors, correspondence. Corporal Hazard, Sergeant Henkelman and Private 1st class Kestner, report of changes. Sergeant Teel and Private 1st class Flaherty, statisticians. Sergeants Heard, Noren, Solomon, Corporal Reeves, Privates 1st class Bennett, Werner, Harrison, Carlson, Creel, Doherty, and Pvts. Puhak, Daly and Tolbert, affidavit makers. Corporal Thompson, Pvts. Gregory, O'Connell, Reynolds, Hall, Schlatter, Pfeffer, Seward and Kanzanjian, filing, tabulating, supervisors of W. D. Forms 369, indorsers of records and miscellaneous work. Pvt. Svendsen, messenger.

The real work of getting data and paying of the overseas patients did not begin until the last week of December, 1918. From that time on the work has progressed without any serious impediments. The Personnel force realized the responsibility attached to the work, and they have, with a very few exceptions, worked harmoniously and expeditiously. The system inaugurated by Lieut. Hoge, has been a success and at present the Personnel organization is at the apex of its efficiency. The force can now commence paying men as soon as they are admitted to the Hospital, regardless of whether the records of the men admitted are forwarded or not. No delays of any kind can occur, which will impede the paying of transient patients.

The Personnel Office made it its duty to pay each and every patient that passed through this hospital. If a patient's stay is to be of such a short duration that his name cannot be included on a payroll, he is paid by special voucher W. D. Form 369.

Approximately 10,000 overseas and casual patients have passed through this hospital since December 11, 1918. About 7,500 of these patients have passed through since the order to pay all patients went into effect. Of these 7,500, 5,950 were included on 192 complete payrolls and about 350 were paid by voucher W. D. Form 369. The remaining number were not paid because they were either dismissed, discharged or transferred to other hospitals before making affidavits or signing the payrolls on which they were included. Many of these patients had signed the payroll, but were transferred before the paying of same by the Finance Officer.

The Personnel force has done all in its power to avoid the non-payment of patients before their transfer elsewhere. But at times the transfer of patients had been made on too short a notice for the Personnel Officer to pay all those transferred. That accounts for the discrepancy noted above. Of late very few patients have been dismissed, transferred or discharged without being paid. The work of the Personnel Office is too well organized to permit it.

All the payrolls made by the Personnel Office are sent to the Finance Office, of the Camp Quartermaster for computation and payment. The Finance Office has done all in its power to expedite the payment of transient patients. At one time word was received by Lieut. Hoge that 500 patients were to be transferred within 48 hours, Lieut. Hoge at once got all the Personnel force working on payrolls to pay these 500 men. The Finance Office was notified of this fact and they assisted us in all possible ways. They wrote and computed payrolls until 4 A.M. and paid some of the men at that early hour. But all the 500 men were paid before leaving this hospital. The paying of the patients has been greatly facilitated by the co-operation of the Personnel and Finance Offices.

A service record and paycard were made for every patient paid by affidavit or W. D. Form 369. These service records and paycards were then indorsed and forwarded to the Service Record Office, who in their turn forwarded them to the destination of the patients.

This brief summary of the work of the Personnel Office is intended to convey to the Detachment members and to the general public an idea of the complicated and miscellaneous work which must be done before any money is paid a soldier passing through this hospital, as a patient. Matters are greatly simplified if the soldier admitted has his service record and other data essential to put him on a payroll. But the general run of patients have been admitted with none, or if any, very scanty records. This fact necessitated the making of affidavits, paycard, service records and W. D. Form 369 vouchers. At first a little difficulty was encountered, which delayed the work somewhat. But this only lasted a short time. The spirit of the whole thing was soon grasped by the Personnel force, and before long it became a well organized and smooth running machine. No one realizes this fact better than Lieutenants Hoge and Tollett, and Sergeant 1/c Muhl. The Personnel force promises to remain the smooth organization that it is, providing that too many of its men are not discharged before those to replace them are given the short but effective training required to carry on the work.

## BORDEN'S MILK

### QUALITY—SERVICE—

You gain these two desirable features when you buy Borden's Milk

Our many years of experience in supervising the production of milk, our thorough system of inspection and our ideal delivery organization insure you receiving the finest quality of products and a truly satisfactory service.



BORDEN'S FARM PRODUCTS CO. INC.



# The Base Hospital Mess

*By Sgt. 1-cl. Elmer I. Goggans, Mess Sergeant*

At the opening of Camp Merritt Base Hospital, January 9, 1918, the enlisted personnel numbering ninety-seven, and patients nine, the problem of feeding these men was very simple in comparison with the problems that confronted us of the

for 1,400 men.

During the influenza epidemic the patients in this hospital ranged from 3,000 to 3,800 with about 850 corps men and 300 casualties attached for rations, which meant that over 13,650 meals were served

Hall No. 1 is 2,650 men; cooking capacity, 6,000 men. The kitchen department of the Base Hospital is thoroughly qualified and competent to cope with any emergency that may arise.

*(To be continued)*



*General Mess Hall No. 1—Camp Merritt Base Hospital*

same nature during the year just past and at the present time.

At the opening of the hospital, Capt. Griffith A. Thomas, M. C., U. S. A., was detailed mess officer, assisted by a mess sergeant, a chief cook, one dietitian, four cooks and about ten helpers. At present the personnel of the kitchens consists of Capt. Thomas, mess officer, a mess sergeant, four dining-room sergeants, one dietitian, two chief cooks, twenty-five cooks, and fifty-five helpers.

During the summer of 1918 as the hospital grew in size to accommodate the increasing number of patients admitted for treatment, the kitchen force naturally had to be increased to keep pace, and the training of new men as cooks presented itself as something of a new problem to be met and solved in the briefest possible time. Only four of the men who are now cooks in these kitchens had any experience in the business of cooking in camp or at home until they were suddenly detailed on K. P. work as cook's helpers or kitchen police. On qualifying at these jobs they were promoted to the grade of cook.

The main kitchen, known as Kitchen No. 1, was first equipped with one four-fire coal range, two steam vegetable cookers, one meat roaster, one cereal cooker, one 60-gallon stock pot and two 25-gallon coffee urns. When the detachment had increased to about 650 men and the patients to 2,000, it became necessary to put in additional equipment, consisting of another four-fire coal range, two steam vegetable cookers, two 60-gallon stock pots, and necessitated the building of a new diet kitchen equipped to accommodate about 1,500 bed-patients, who required special and light diets. Another mess hall and kitchen, known as Mess Hall No. 2, was added, accommodating easily 3,000 men, with seating capacity in the dining-room

daily, representing a cost of over \$2,500 daily for meals alone.

The business of cooking for such a number every day is no easy job, and it is not the simplest thing in the world to make a meal taste as well as it should under such circumstances. Everything served to the enlisted men at this hospital is of the best quality obtainable, and the utmost care is used in its preparation.

Since the signing of the armistice this hospital has received such a large number of men from overseas that it was necessary to take over two blocks in camp for their accommodation, which meant that eight extra kitchens were put in operation, making the total kitchens in use by this hospital eleven.

All men who are able to walk to the mess hall get their meals there, at tables that are set ready for them. After eating, they take their dishes to the dish-room where the kitchen helpers put them through the steam dishwasher, dry them, and re-set the tables with them for the next meal. It is practically continuous service for the kitchen help to clean up one meal and get ready for the serving of the next.

All patients unable to walk to the mess hall are given their meals in the wards, the food coming to them in covered food-trucks that keep the contents hot until served.

Goods are ordered for the mess from day to day as required by the bill of fare, prepared one week in advance, the orders being given by the mess officer in person, a record made of each order and cost, which is checked against goods as delivered and a comparison made of order and invoice, avoiding possibility of shortage or overcharge.

Total dining-room capacity of Mess

SEE

**BURTON &  
DAVIS CO.**

*Commissary Supplies*

PROMPT DELIVERIES

**28-30 North Moore Street  
New York**

TELEPHONE:  
FRANKLIN 2300-2301



# Nurses' Department

## An Army Nurse's Day

By Mina K. Strickland, A. N. C., Base Hospital Nursing Staff

This does not begin with the musical notes of a bugle—but a bell in the hands of the night supervisor. If she is a friend she will close the window and turn on the heat and light—otherwise you do this for yourself.

The nurses' first bell is rung at 6 a. m. and the breakfast bell at 6.30—leaving one-half hour to have breakfast and be on duty at 7.

After you are out of bed you meet the nurses in their hurry to the wash-room—no time to talk, just a hurried "good morning"—or if you see some sleepy head in bed who has not heard the bell or has fallen asleep again you call her and "hurry on." Eight basins and many women—but all are in a hurry, so you do not have to wait long. At last, your cap on and cape over your arm, you rush to the dining-room for a bit to eat and a cup of coffee—to last until almost nine-thirty—when all patients on liquid diet are given nourishment, and about that time, if cocoa or milk is served, many have a glass of either to help out until lunch time.

NOTE: "Day nurses to be on duty promptly at 7 a. m."

This reminder has been posted several times. Besides obeying the rules the day nurses should remember that the night nurses have been on duty all night and would like to be relieved—but the night nurses should also be prompt.

The usual routine of hospital work is taken up in the morning. Wards are swept, bath-rooms scrubbed, kitchen cleaned, dishes sterilized, baths and the various treatments given to patients.

In the pneumonia wards this takes quite some time—the patients are so ill and need much care. The ward in an army hospital is carefully policed every day. This means thorough cleanliness—tables, beds, chairs are washed and especial care given to the radiators. The hospital is inspected every day by a sanitary inspector, one of the nurses acting as sanitary supervisor. On Saturday morning the commanding officer, the adjutant, the chief nurse and the detachment sergeant inspect the whole hospital, and not a corner escapes their scrutiny. Later a report is sent to each ward as to the rating. I am glad to say that usually the wards pass "excellent" in the rating.

Each morning the reports are sent from the ward, signed by the ward surgeon. The morning report, diet slip, pay vouchers and a prescription blank. These are sent to the various offices where they are received as part of the office routine work.

Army nurses work eight hours on day duty, and have four hours off each day and one afternoon a week. If the wards are very busy two or three hours off duty—this time is arranged by the nurse in charge of the ward.

The nurses on their time off ought to



Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Ward, Camp Merritt Base Hospital

take a walk: some do, and others have a nap, and many favor the nap. Although these nice days one does see them around camp with their cameras. In the evenings there are movies at the Red Cross convalescent home, where a place is reserved for the nurses, or a trip to Dumont or Englewood or New York.

The nurses have given several dances in their Red Cross Club and once have been entertained by the officers of the Base Hospital. There is a dance every Wednesday night at the Officers' Club. Nurses are allowed to attend these dances.

Life in an army camp is very pleasant in many ways. The medical officers are most considerate and the ward men do all they can to help. I think the nurses feel their time has been spent in a very useful manner even though they were kept on this side while the big work was being done on the other side of the water. We all entered the service with the idea of going over and it was not easy to be left at home—not any easier for the nurses than it was for the medical officers and enlisted men.

### NURSES' NOTES

Miss Esther Richards, an Army Reserve nurse, was relieved of service at the Base Hospital at Camp McArthur, Texas, when that camp was demobilized, and assigned to this Base Hospital, March 4, 1919. Miss Richards is a native of Omaha, Nebraska, and has been in service seven months.

Miss Mary Lyons, the new dietitian in the officers' ward, reported for duty February 25, 1919. Miss Lyons had just re-

turned from France where she had served six months as dietitian with Base Hospital No. 41, stationed at Saint Denis, France.

\* \* \*

In recognition of their service Congress has passed a bill increasing the pay of chief nurses in the army by \$240 a year. At present chief nurses receive \$120 a year in addition to the pay of a nurse, which is \$50 a month, and by the terms of the new legislation, they will receive a generous addition to regular pay of a nurse. The increase is effective as of July 9, 1918.

\* \* \*

For extraordinary heroism while on duty in France in caring for sick and wounded soldiers, the Distinguished Service Cross has been conferred upon an American woman by Secretary of War Baker, and will be presented to two other American women when they return from their service overseas, the three decorations having been recommended at the same time by the Surgeon General of the Army. Miss Beatrice M. MacDonald, of New York, happened to have returned in advance of her sister nurses and the honor of being the first woman to receive this decoration fell to her happy lot. When Miss Helen G. McClelland and Miss Isabel Stambaugh, both of Philadelphia, return to this country, they will receive similar decorations from the hands of the Secretary of War.

The three women are reserve nurses of the Army Nurse Corps and were decorated for displaying heroism under fire.

(To be continued)



# Evacuation of Overseas Patients at Camp Merritt Base Hospital

*By Hospital Sergeant Roy Spivey*

By the term "evacuation" it is proposed to discuss the whole use of the hospital as a channel of evacuation between the point of debarkation and the ultimate destinations of the patients for final treatment or discharge; it will therefore include their reception here, and the manner of their disposition to other points.

A brief sketch of the mechanism necessary in accomplishing this whole process will best serve to indicate the great amount of work connected therewith, and the numerous agencies which have to co-operate smoothly to carry it out.

First the Port receives tentative information of the number and general character of the patients to be expected as the ships near New York; on the basis of this, advance arrangements are made at the hospitals for their accommodation; as the ships dock, representatives of the Port Surgeon's office meet them, and, if the wounded are not well classified as to severity of condition, this classification is made at once, as adequately as the hurry and confusion of unloading will permit; this having been done, transportation is arranged, and the several hospitals, which have had their respective "liaison" officers at the piers, are informed of the result of the classification; upon the receipt of this information, we here arrange for the quartering of the new arrivals, for their transportation from the railroad station to their quarters, for **FEEDING THEM IMMEDIATELY ON ARRIVAL HERE** (these letters are not half as big as the fact of a good hot feed is to them), for necessary immediate attention to their wounds, and, in some cases, to the immediate provision of the wherewithal for them to sleep in, for we have received numbers of them minus all the most essential equipment of a soldier.

This completes the reception of the patients, the routine followed in arranging for their dispersion to scores of points all over the country having been already described in the March issue of *THE MESS-KIT*.

All of which having been done, there comes the big day when they leave us to go to that some other place which is in each case so much more desirable, because it is just so much nearer HOME! Orders are received that on a certain day such and such men will be sent to such and such hospitals by such and such trains; then a schedule must be prepared, for sometimes the movements are exceedingly large and complicated; the number of ambulances and trucks necessary to carry those leaving at the various times must be calculated, and the motor transport officer notified in advance; rations for the first day's travel are generally provided by us, and these must be ordered in advance; the patients' property office must be prepared to issue the equipment brought in by the men and to supply its deficiencies; the registrar must see that all deposits of money and valuables are returned; the several barracks and wards

must be notified in minute detail just when to have the patients at the shipping point; all the individuals concerned in the administrative handling of the numerous details must be notified to be on deck sharp on time; advices must be checked with the railroad authorities; if the movement is a large one, military police headquarters must know of it, so that they may provide proper regulation at the station; if the patients are tubercular, special supplies for controlling the spread of infection must go with them; then, when all this has been attended to, and the patients are assembled at the shipping point, they must be carefully checked against the authorized list, the equipment of each one must be scrutinized, they must be loaded into the transportation provided, they must again be checked at the train, as only by a comparison of more than one check can reasonable accuracy be assured, the adequacy of the railroad accommodation provided must be noted, and their records must be furnished to go with them, and receipt for them must be taken from the escorts who receive them; finally, detailed report of the evacuation must be made to Port headquarters, and not until then can we breathe the sigh of contentment over a finished job. And we have indicated here only our own little end of the great big job of moving these men—we have made no reference to the larger problem of supplying railroad accommodation and arranging train connections for their whole journey through to their destinations, of hooking up the necessary escort details to accompany them, of rationing them at distant points clear through to their journey's end, of the synchronizing of a score of independent activities all over this great country to the end that they may be taken care of at every step of the process—all of which devolves upon the executive heads at Washington and Port Headquarters.

When it is remembered that this whole problem of handling tremendous numbers of overseas sick and wounded was thrown on the Port authorities practically overnight, following the accomplishment of the armistice, and on our own hospital like a clap of thunder out of a clear sky, it is no matter for wonder that at first the results sought had to be obtained by gloriously hit-or-miss methods, and that it took some time so to systematize the work as to make a smooth-running mechanism, which now proceeds with its work in a well-ordered routine which scarcely makes a ripple on the surface of our other ordinary round of activities. That these results have, however, been accomplished from the first with, under the circumstances, a minimum of waste effort, and a creditable degree of efficiency, is a tribute alike to the executive capacity of the higher command and the devotion and adaptability of our own organization.

Our first "batch" of overseas patients arrived late in the evening, as did most of our earlier shipments; they were thor-

oughly fatigued, and very hungry; our big main kitchen was sizzling with the activity necessary to feed them promptly; this precaution served to convince them thoroughly that they had at last escaped from the purgatory of their transatlantic trip; the toilet facilities of six wards had been arranged for their bathing and "sterilization," and finally they were distributed to the various wards. Not until night had waned toward morning were all snugly tucked in clean warm beds.

Almost immediately, however, the capacity of the hospital proper was overtaxed by the rapid influx of these patients, and the camp authorities turned over to our administration the thirty-two barracks, and various accessory buildings, of Block 21; it was likewise found that no arrangements which we could make here would be in any way adequate to handle the "sanitary process" ourselves, and since the initial shipments, through the generous co-operation of the camp surgeon, this work has been done entirely by the camp plant; this scheme made it possible to make all admissions of these large groups directly to Block 21, and to handle the sterilization of clothing and equipment from there; then any cases with diseases or wounds requiring immediate hospital treatment were admitted from the block to the hospital as though from an independent command, while those who remained in the block were administered as any other casual company would be; thus the functions of caring for the really sick were confined to the hospital proper, and its facilities were not at any time seriously overtaxed, in spite of the huge numbers which were from time to time under our direct administrative control. A little later on it was also necessary to take over Block 17 for the accommodation of these patients, and it was operated in a manner similar to Block 21.

The local transportation of these men from and to the trains has been a detail which we could by no means have handled except for the cheerful and efficient assistance of the Camp Dispatch Office, which has at all times placed at our disposal all the motor transport which its facilities afforded; we have recently, however, by reason of our own increased transportation facilities, been able to accomplish all these movements without dependence on outside help. We have also received, at all times, the most helpful co-operation from Mr. Murphy, representing the American Railway Association at this camp, from other railway officials, and from the camp liaison officers. More than all, however, the degree of efficiency which we have attained in this our little part in the big scheme of treating and demobilizing the sick and wounded from overseas, which has not been unworthy of complimentary remark from outside sources, has depended on the loyal interest and earnest hard work of our own commissioned and enlisted personnel.



# The Mechanism of the Y. M. C. A.

By the Interviewer

(Continued from March number)

"Y" WASHED 14,000 PRISONERS  
*Soiled and Ragged Army Cared for at  
Nancy Immediately After Close of the  
Fighting*

Ernest Hodges, a Red Triangle secretary, who has returned from overseas, witnessed at Nancy in the four weeks immediately after signing of the armistice, the largest cleaning of the unwashed of war that ever took place in such a short time at one place.

He saw 14,000 released American and Allied prisoners from German prison camps, dirty, ragged and vermin ridden, bathed, fed, clothed and sheltered in the Red Triangle quarters at Nancy.

Hodges was in Nancy in charge of the hotel for enlisted men when the armistice was signed. Two days later the first released prisoners straggled into town—two Britishers. They were the most woe begone creatures that even this war stricken town had ever seen. They were immediately taken in by Hodges and looked after, and they were but the first of a long procession.

## Used Large Baths

Before the end of the day several scores of the men had arrived, and before the end of the week they were coming in hundred and five hundred lots. There were no British authorities in the town, and only a few French casuals. It was up to the Y. M. C. A. to care for these men, if they were to receive care.

Fortunately there was a quantity of supplies, as well as an American Army clothing commissary containing salvaged clothes in the town. Then there were huge French barracks which were unoccupied, and the Nancy Thermal Baths, capable of accommodating 1,200 persons daily. The army authorities placed the salvaged clothes at the disposal of the Red Triangle men and permission was given them to use the barracks for the prisoners.

Virtually all the first prisoners to come in were Americans who had enlisted in the Canadian army. They were followed by Englishmen, and then a parade of men of all nationalities. At one time Hodges had under his care soldiers of nine different nationalities, while he has seen as many as five different nationalities sitting at one table writing in their respective languages.

## More German Lies

Writing was one of the things that Hodges insisted upon. No sooner had a man been fed, taken to the baths and clothed than he was given writing paper and pen and asked to write home. In this work Hodges had a strange experience. Several young Englishmen, he noticed, avoided writing letters, and when he asked about it they declared that they had no families.

Upon further inquiry he learned the Germans had convinced the prisoners that there had been a revolution in England and that virtually all the women had been killed. The Red Triangle worker finally persuaded the boys that this was not true and got them to write their letters.

The British after a period of several

weeks commenced to take their prisoners in hand, and in a short time were able to take charge.

## PAPERS FOR YANKS IN GERMANY

*Y. M. C. A. Ships 60,000 Printed in English Under Guard Across the Rhine Each Day*

From Paris.—Natural born newspaper readers, the men of the American Expeditionary Force in Germany, Alsace and Lorraine, continue in the armistice lull to show the same news appetite evinced in the heart of the Argonne Forest while the fighting was hottest. More than 60,000 daily newspapers in English are sent from Paris every morning to the Americans in enemy territory.

A courier takes the papers to Metz, unloads them there, sleeps in the station to guard them, reloads them on another train the next morning, throws off one-third of them to other couriers who meet the train at Treves and takes the rest on to Coblenz. The troops in Luxemburg, Alsace and Lorraine are served in the same way.

## Like "Home" Papers, Too

Nothing else distributed is so eagerly and generally sought as these papers, and as a large percentage of them are the Paris editions of American newspapers, it is possible for the soldiers to get the world news in English language newspapers almost as soon as the people in Paris. This is in addition to great numbers from America, not so fresh, but eagerly read.

"Getting the news to the A. E. F. has been a difficult but much appreciated task all through the war," D. K. Metcalf, a Red Triangle man says, who has the work in charge.

"In December we distributed 2,360,345 newspapers and 379,000 magazines, not counting old magazines and newspapers, which are not counted but handled in sack lots."

(To be continued)

## HENRY LISSA & CO.

Manufacturers of  
**TRUNKS, TRAVELING  
BAGS AND DRESS SUIT  
CASES**

595 BROADWAY  
168 MERCER ST. NEW YORK

Factory, NEWARK, N. J.  
Telephone 6124 Spring

WARDROBE TRUNKS

## HELLO, NEBRASKANS!

Come to the Hall of States  
27 West 25th Street  
New York City

Meet some folks from home.  
NEBRASKA papers on file.  
Phone Farragut 8800.

## NEW BOOKS Commanding Special Attention

### THE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT IN ASIA

By TYLER DENNETT

With 34 Unusual Photographic Illustrations. Cloth, illus., \$1.50

Two extensive tours through Japan, China, the Philippines, Malaysia, and India supplied the author with his material, and a thoroughly impartial and alert attitude of mind gave his observations their value. These chapters present reasons for the faith that democracy is making definite headway in the East and indicate the principal forces that are stimulating progress toward liberty.

### MORALS AND MORALE

By LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.

Foreword by Raymond B. Fosdick. Cloth, \$1.00.

A striking presentation of the new and constructive attitude towards the relation of morality to efficiency, shown in the program of the War Department for the American Expeditionary Force, and a stirring appeal to the moral elements in American life to approach the problem in a new and united way.

### MARKS OF A WORLD CHRISTIAN

An "Everyday Life" Book

By D. J. FLEMING, PH.D.

Cloth, \$ .75.

We all claim to be world citizens in these stirring days. Can we be satisfied to be anything less than world Christians? For the attainment of that standard certain elements in the "triangular relationship—myself, other folks, and God"—certain attitudes of mind and heart are essential. It is these which the author presents in a way which stimulates not only thought, but action.

### INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF CHRISTIANITY

By OZORA S. and GRACE T. DAVIS.  
Cloth, \$1.00.

He who would limit the Kingdom of God to a single race or nation, fails altogether to grasp its meaning. How great souls throughout the ages have had both the vision of the universal Kingdom and the spirit of service which alone can make that vision come true, is shown by striking quotations, arranged with comment for daily study. They make the world point of view contagious.

### THE SHORTER BIBLE

The New Testament.

By CHARLES FOSTER KENT

Cloth, \$1.00.

A new translation which gives in simple, dignified modern English those parts of the Bible which are of vital interest and practical value to the people of today, and makes of the whole a connected narrative of the life of Jesus and His great social, religious and economic teachings.

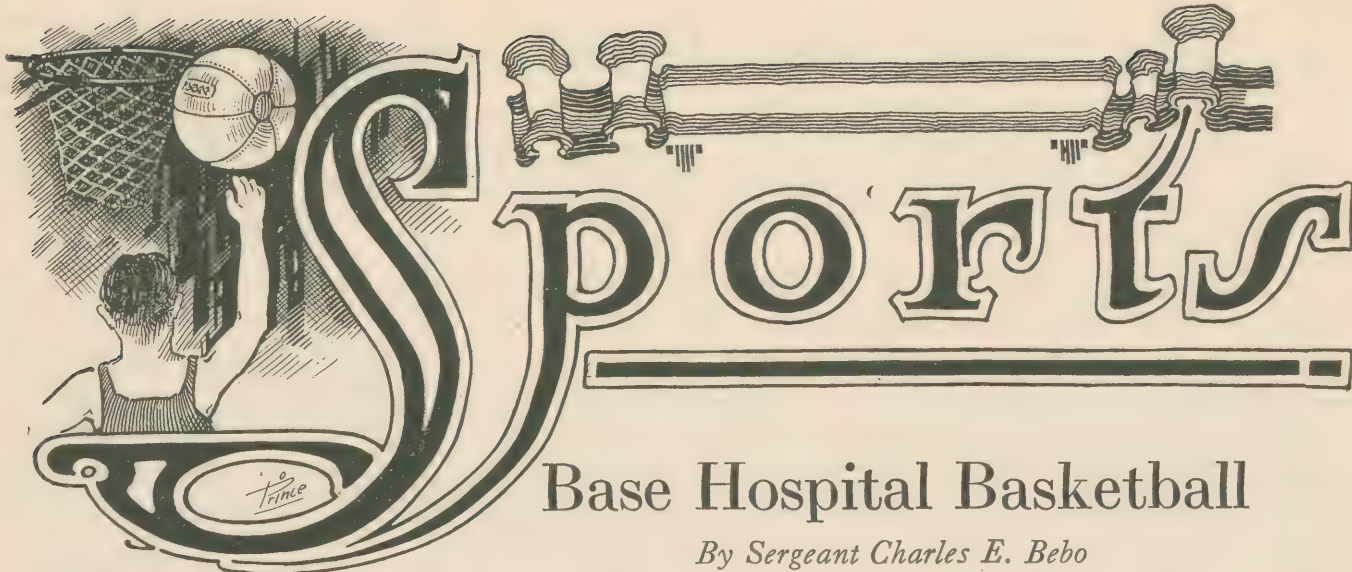
Write for "Reconstruction Books" Folder

**ASSOCIATION PRESS**

Publication Department,  
International Committee Y. M. C. A.

347 Madison Ave., New York





# Sports

## Base Hospital Basketball

*By Sergeant Charles E. Bebo*

Since the last report of League Basketball activities, as of date, February 12, 1919, published in the March number of THE MESS-KIT, our Base Hospital tossers have yielded place at the head of the list to the team of the 13th Infantry, their percentage of .969 accruing to them from twelve games won and one game lost, giving them a marked precedence over Motor Transport and Base Hospital, who are tied for second honors with a total of eleven games won and three games lost, and a percentage of .785. This is the official standing on date March 15, 1919, and our fellows scarcely expect to recover their ground before the basketball season ends in the first week of April. Making due allowances for probable defaults it does not appear likely upon the "dope" of the season's play that the 13th Infantry can be ousted from their position of winning team of the Camp Basketball League. It could happen if some very unexpected things occurred, but it is quite unlikely to happen. However, the home tossers are to be congratulated upon some good stiff fights pulled through to winning fights by science and endurance. It cannot be said that the hospital team secured the time needed to perfect themselves in practice. Team work, which is born only of steady practice, could not be developed because of the difficulty of getting our men together for continuous work. Their practice work was done in matches instead of between matches, and the showing made in the League Schedule is more than good when it is remembered that their games had to be won on individual skill and stamina. From February 12 to March 15, inclusive, the Base Hospital team played matches as follows:

### CLIFFSIDE

On February 15th the B. H. Team journeyed to Cliffside, N. J., and in a hard, fast game lost to the Cliffside H. S. Team by a score of 19 to 17.

Base Hospital	Pos.	Cliffside H. S.
Proctor	L. F.	Scullion
Chappelear	R. F.	Rollins
Spradlin	C.	Vanderback
Watson	L. G.	Gebhardt
Patten	R. G.	Mazzei

Substitutes, Base Hospital: Lutz, Sunshine.

Baskets from the floor, Base Hospital: Proctor, 4; Chappelear, 1; Sunshine, 2; Lutz, 3.

Baskets from the floor, Cliffside H. S.: Rollins, 5; Vanderback, 2; Mazzei, 3.

The B. H. five were handicapped not a little in being required to play under A. A. U. rules, but adapted themselves well to this style of play and gave the opposition a good fight for honors.

### MOTOR TRUCK CO.

The Base Hospital quintet went down to their first defeat in the Camp League on the evening of February 19th, falling victims to the Gas Hounds, the representative team of the Motor Truck Co., the score being 19 to 14. It was a well played, snappy game, replete with sensational floor-work, and the result hung in the balance until the final whistle was blown. For the Base Hospital five Anderson, Patten and Sunshine starred, while Garrison, Lotz and Boise played fine basketball.

Base Hospital	Pos.	M. T. Co.
Proctor	R. F.	Burns
Anderson	L. F.	Garrison
Lutz	C.	Lewis
Patten	R. G.	Boise
Sunshine	L. G.	Lotz

Field Goals: Garrison, 4; Lewis, 3; Sunshine, 2; Patten, 2; Anderson, 1; Burns, 1; Lotz, 1; Lutz, 1.

Foul Goals: Anderson, 1; Patten, 1; Garrison, 1.

Score: M. T. Co., 19; Base Hospital, 14.

### Q. M. C.

The Q. M. C. gave the Hospital boys quite a scare at the Y. M. C. A. No. 1 Court, February 24th, for the pill rollers were forced to extend themselves to the utmost to win, 29 to 23. The playing of Patten and Proctor deserves more than passing notice, the former for his all-round work and the latter for his clever shooting, being credited with six baskets. For the Q. M. C. five Dawson, O'Donnell and Butler played a fast clever game.

Jack London, of the 13th Infantry, refereed a fine game. Jack sure missed his vocation.

B. H.	Pos.	Q. M. C.
Proctor	R. F.	Blauvelt
Anderson	L. F.	Dawson
Lutz	C.	Dicks
Sunshine	R. G.	O'Donnell
Patten	L. G.	Butler

Substitute: Watson.

Score: B. H., 29; Q. M. C., 23.

Goals from Field: Blauvelt, 1; Dawson, 3; O'Donnell, 3; Butler, 3; Proctor, 6; Lutz, 1; Sunshine, 2.

Foul Goals: Blauvelt, 0; Proctor, 3; Anderson, 4; Watson, 1; Sunshine, 3.

### ORADELL

On February 26th the second team of the basketball squad from the Base Hospital motored to Oradell, N. J., and played a hard, fast game against the Oradell A. C., losing by a score of 25 to 24. After the game there was a dance, and though the boys lost the game they came home in good spirits.

Oradell	Pos.	Base Hos.	2d T.
Koestner .....	L. F.	Muhl	
Cherrity .....	R. F.	Thatcher	
Preis .....	C.	Klein	
Koestner .....	L. G.	Thompson	
Voorhis .....	R. G.	Greenwood	

Hennigar substituted for Voorhis in the second half.

Chappelear substituted for Thatcher in the second half.

Score: Oradell, 25; Base Hospital, 2d Team, 24.

### 13TH INFANTRY

On February 27th the 13th Infantry five appeared upon the Y. M. C. A. No. 1 floor to battle with the Hospital boys. Having lost the first game played on January 30th which was a surprise party in every way, they were eager for revenge and played the game of their young lives. The Hospital boys found themselves on the short end of a 43 to 23 score after the smoke of battle had cleared away, being outplayed by a team showing superior team work and uncanny accuracy in caging baskets.

Proctor and Anderson played well for the Base Hospital boys. Chief Doshinko and Stone starred for the 13th Infantry.

Base Hospital	Pos.	13th Infantry
Sunshine	R. F.	Stone
Lutz	L. F.	Doshinko
Evans	C.	Smith
Proctor	R. G.	London
Anderson	L. G.	Reed

Substitutes: Chappelear, Patton.  
Score: Base Hospital, 23; 13th Infantry, 43.

### BOGOTA

In the fastest game of basketball of the season in Bogota on February 28th, the Base Hospital boys played the all star team that represents that town. The C. C. dispensers played a great game and gave the stars a hard fight throughout the entire game. Katzman, the former captain of the Base Hospital Team, played against



his former team mates and played his usual fast game. The Base Hospital five displayed the best game of team work that they have played this season.

Base Hospital	Pos.	Bogota
Proctor	R. F.	Farrant
Sunshine	L. F.	Schmidt
Lutz	C.	Thomas
Evans	R. G.	Sharry
Anderson	L. G.	Katzman

Substitute: Patten.

Score: Base Hospital, 35; Bogota, 36.

#### SALVAGE DEPARTMENT

Postponed game of March 7th; game played March 11th.

Going over to the Y. M. C. A. No. 1 on the afternoon of March 11th the Base Hospital boys easily defeated the basketball team that represents the Salvage Department in the Camp League by a score of 47 to 17. Sunshine played his usual game and made some very pretty baskets. The basketball team showed marked improvement in their team work and played a nice passing game. The Salvage team played a hard clean game but were out-classed.

Salvage Co.	Pos.	Base Hospital
Koch	L. F.	Proctor
Sirk	R. F.	Sunshine
Redman	C.	Lutz
Grahentini	L. G.	Anderson
Close	R. G.	Evans

Substitutes, Base Hospital: Muhl, Thompson, Kline, Watson, Patten and Chapp.

Score: Salvage Co., 17; Base Hospital, 47.

#### BAKERS AND COOKS

A large crowd of Overseas men, at K. of C. Hall, Thursday, March 13th, watched a very one-sided game of basketball. The Base Hospital team had no trouble in defeating the Bakers and Cooks and easily piled up a score of 47 points to the breadmakers' 20 for the Base Hospital team. Proctor, Sunshine and Chappelear kept the ball slipping through the net of the basket, Proctor getting 4, Sunshine getting 5 and Chapp 7. The game was cut to fifteen minutes instead of twenty. For the Bakers and Cooks, Neil and Hicks played a fast game, Neil getting six baskets, some of them very pretty shots.

Base Hospital	Pos.	Bakers & Cooks
Proctor	R. F.	Hicks
Sunshine	L. F.	Nell
Lutz	C.	Carlson
Evans	R. G.	Dickens
Chappelear	L. G.	Yangling

Score: Base Hospital, 47; Bakers and Cooks, 20.

Substitutes for Base Hospital: Muhl, Klein, Thompson.

Substitutes for Bakers and Cooks: McGrath.

#### MOTOR TRUCK CO.

Once again the Base Hospital basketball team met defeat. The Motor Truck Co.'s lanky tossers seemed outplayed many times during the game, but the Hospital boys could not cage the ball, although they kept the ball under their basket most of the time. The jinks was in evidence, for time and again the ball hovered on the rim of the basket and would not fall through. Lutz and Sunshine played a great game, the former keeping the lanky center of the Gas Hounds from getting

a basket, while he was getting two baskets himself. Sunshine played a fine floor game besides caging four baskets. For the Gas Hounds, Garrison starred, making six nice baskets.

Base Hospital	Pos.	M. T. Gas Hounds
Proctor	L. F.	Burns
Evans	R. F.	Garrison
Lutz	C.	Louis
Anderson	L. G.	Boise
Sunshine	R. G.	West

Substitute for Base Hospital: Chappelear.

Substitute for Gas Hounds: Livers.

Score: Base Hospital, 18; Motor Transport Gas Hounds, 20.

**L. & C. Mayers Co.**

#### DIAMONDS WATCHES JEWELRY

Samples or illustrations of our goods can be seen at all

U.S.A. Base Hospital Post Exchanges

**L. & C. MAYERS CO.**

Manufacturers-Importers

46 Cortlandt Street

New York

## Camp Basketball League

### Official League Standing on March 15, 1919

	Won	Lost	Percent
13th Infantry	12	1	.969
M. T. C.	11	3	.785
Base Hospital	11	3	.785
Q. M. C.	8	4	.666
Salvage	5	7	.416
Bakers and Cooks	2	12	.142
Headquarters	2	12	.142
Casual Battalion	0	7	.000

## Camp Basketball League Schedule

Monday, March 17—Base Hospital vs. Q. M. C., Y. M. C. A., 8:30 P. M.  
 Tuesday, March 18—13th Infantry vs. Salvage, K. of C., 6:30 P. M.  
 Wednesday, March 19—Motor Truck vs. Q. M. C., Y. M. C. A., 7:30 P. M.  
 Wednesday, March 19—Base Hospital vs. 13th Infantry, Y. M. C. A., 8:30 P. M.  
 Thursday, March 20—Bakers & Cooks vs. Salvage, K. of C., 6:30 P. M.  
 Friday, March 21—Q. M. C. vs. Bakers & Cooks, Y. M. C. A., 8:30 P. M.  
 Monday, March 24—13th Inf. vs. Motor Truck, Y. M. C. A., 8:30 P. M.  
 Tuesday, March 25—Salvage vs. Base Hospital, K. of C., 6:30 P. M.  
 Wednesday, March 26—Bakers & Cooks vs. Motor Truck, Y. M. C. A., 7:30 P. M.  
 Wednesday, March 26—13th Inf. vs. Q. M. C., Y. M. C. A., 8:30 P. M.  
 Thursday, March 27—13th Inf. vs. Salvage, K. of C., 6:30 P. M.  
 Friday, March 28—Motor Truck vs. Base Hospital, Y. M. C. A., 8:30 P. M.  
 Monday, March 31—Base Hospital vs. Bakers & Cooks, Y. M. C. A., 2:30 P. M.  
 Monday, March 31—Q. M. C. vs. Salvage, Y. M. C. A., 8:30 P. M.  
 Tuesday, April 1—Bakers & Cooks vs. 13th Infantry, K. of C., 6:30 P. M.  
 Wednesday, April 2—Q. M. C. vs. 13th Infantry, Y. M. C. A., 8:30 P. M.  
 End of Season.

When you want the real thing in sport equipment, you instinctively think of

# SPALDING

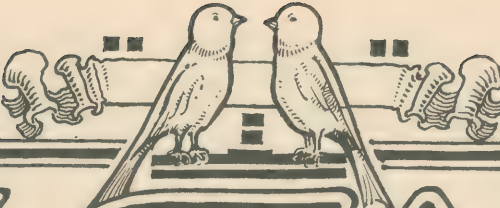
Official Outfitters  
to U. S. A. Base  
Hospital, Camp  
Merritt, Athletic  
Department.



**A. G. Spalding & Bros.**

523 Fifth Avenue  
126 Nassau St., New York





# AT EASE

(This is the Question and Answer Department of THE MESS-KIT, where the enlisted or discharged man will discuss his business connected with his work as subscription-agent for THE MESS-KIT; where he will make his complaints and state his grievances, if he has any grievances, and he probably has many. Discussion may do good by making clear the nature of those grievances. Changes may follow. Improvements may be made in matters that are here made known for the first time. This Department is the Meeting-Place, or Forum, where we talk things over. Correspondents will bear in mind that liberty does not mean license. We expect you to state your case simply and talk to the point. Give us facts and the evidence behind the facts to prove your statements. If, in our judgment, the publication of the facts will result in good to the status of the soldier, the facts will be published. Washington is anxious to help the enlisted man. The attitude of the Administration at Washington is also the attitude of the Surgeon General's office at Washington, of the Surgeon's office at Port of Embarkation, and of the Commanding Officer of this and every Base Hospital. Understand that. Get it clear. Grievances grow to manias by suppression. Let us talk. In this Department also will be carried from time to time such good or evil things as our friends and enemies may speak or write concerning THE MESS-KIT. Here, too, will be presented such laughter-moving cartoons and sketches as belong to the daily life of the soldier. In a word, this is the Barracks Department of THE MESS-KIT, where we meet informally, "at ease.")

## The Hole in the Dough-nut

Camp Merritt, N. J., March 15, 1919.

EDITOR MESS-KIT:

Please allow me to air my grouch and put me wise why it was that, with all the advertising the Salvation Army Dough-nut got, the Battalion I was with from Sept. 18, 1917, to Feb. 9, 1919, in the A. E. F., never even saw or smelt one of them?

I am supposed to be a professional soldier, and since the U. S. entered the war I have done my best to uphold all it stood for. I suppose it is out of place to kick, but it sure gets my goat to get back here in the States and hear of all that this one and that one did for the "Boys Over There!" I was with my organization continuously from the time they left Syracuse, N. Y., on Sept. 17, 1917, for France until October, 1918, and I can recall all that it got free or at a lower price than the general public had to pay.

December, 1917, numerous packages of cigarettes and tobacco from Our Boys in France Tobacco Fund—given through the newspapers by popular contributions of the public; Red Cross sweaters about the same time; Christmas, 1917, some Christmas gifts from the Y. M. C. A.. About this time we got a Y man who really was well liked by the boys, a Mr. Arthur King, of Long Island City, I think, but for some reason he left for the States. If I am not mistaken it was on account of sickness in his family. January, February, March, more of the packages of the Our Boys in France Tobacco Fund; April, after a hard stretch in the trenches N. W. of St. Mihiel, we got some Red Cross safety razors; July, 1918, Mr. Von Emden, a Y man, gave us some cookies which I myself brought to the platoon which was in the line at that time east of the Paris Road in the Chateau Thierry Sector, commanded by 1st Lt. Strout, Co. C, 5th M. G. Bn.

On July 21, 1918, after attacking at Soissons and being in reserve, we received each a package of cookies and a bar of chocolate from the Y. About the last of August, 1918, we got a Y man that I really think did all he could for us. His name was Jones, though I do not know his first name or where he comes from. On the night before the at-

tack at St. Mihiel we had given to us a bar of chocolate each and three packs of cigarettes by our Y man. After the attack he also gave us some canned fruit, but the hot chocolate, "coming out of a fight" did not appear to the 5th M. G. Bn. up to that time. After that time I can not say what they got for I was sent to the I. C. S., where the Armistice killed my ambitions to take a platoon over the top. The Salvation Army Dough-nuts or Lassies failed to appear in the vicinity of the 5th Hardtails up to the date of my leaving the Battalion.

In the month of June, 1918, Mr. Von Emden sent a gunny sack of cigarettes and canned fruit to our Co. C, 5th M. G. Btn., by our ration wagon. I received them at our kitchen from Wagoner Ables, Bn. Hdqs., which was about 500 yards in back of our lines, and gave them out. Myself and Cpl. Roginski of Co. C paid for them in July, I having to borrow 25 francs from Lt. Strout to have enough to pay for them. But I must state that Lt. Strout refused to take the money back from me when I tried to pay him, making the statement to me, "No, that is my share to the Boys!" and believe me, I saw to it that the boys knew it, and thanked him for it, too, and we would go with him to any place overrun by the Kaiser or his predecessor the devil!

SERGEANT MAJOR JAMES H. BISHOP,  
Attached to Thirteenth Infantry Hdqs.,  
Camp Merritt, New Jersey.

Ans. This is a good letter, stating its case clearly; playing no favorites. The Sergeant Major will remember that the Y. M. C. A. charged money for canteen goods in France by order of the Commanding General of the Army, who laid down the principle of payment for goods as being a better rule for the men of his command than the free gift of same. We might say for the Salvation Army that if they have been over-praised as an organization in the matter of the "Doughnut Supply," they did valiant service in aiding our fellows at many places in the front lines. Salvation Army, Y. M. C. A., Red Cross, Jewish Welfare Board, Knights of Columbus, all gave of their best. Could we have spared any one of them from their Overseas Service and Home Service?—EDITOR.

## EDWARD BOKER

INCORPORATED

High Grade Fruits and Produce

Hotel and Club Purveyors

863 SIXTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

Phone Bryant 2871-2872

## Dumont Stationery Co.

RESNICK & BRESLOW, Prop.

MADISON, AVE.

Cigars, Candy, Stationery, Papers  
and Magazines

Papers delivered to residences.  
Opposite Dumont R. R. Station.

## "The Spaghetti House"

A La Forgitt, Prop.

Madison Ave., Dumont, N. J.

Italian-American Restaurant  
Spaghetti and Ravioli

Steaks, Chops and Fried Oysters  
Madison Ave., (One block west of Picket No. 1)

ESTABLISHED  
1891

Long Distance Phone  
1239 } Harlem  
59 }

## S. M. Barber

Commission Merchant

BUTTER, EGGS & PRODUCE

HARLEM MARKET

403 E. 103rd St.

New York



## Personal Items

Written for THE MESS-KIT, by Pvt. 1/c George N. Stack, Med. Dept. Sketches by Miss Marie Gray, of Tenafly, N. J., and Pts. 1/c Philip M. Current and Geo. N. Stack.

Pvt. William Marik, of the Hospital Carpenter Shop, was recently granted a five-day furlough. He took advantage of the opportunity offered by getting married to a school girl chum of his in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. Congratulations.

\* \* \*

Pvt. Michael Dunn, of the Hospital Carpenter Shop, who has been convalescing from pneumonia in Ward J, has returned to his duties.

\* \* \*

Corp. Bryson, of the Sick and Wounded office, has achieved the impossible. He has succeeded in finally getting a shine on his field shoes.

One good thing about the barracks at night is that the hissing of steam never disturbs our slumbers. Boiler House, please take notice!

\* \* \*

DON'T STOP YOUR WAR INSURANCE. There is always a chance of starving to death waiting for a Fort Lee trolley car. Your relatives benefit.

\* \* \*

Heard in Barracks No. 6

Robinson to Thoreen: "How did you find the folks when you were home?"

Thoreen: "I didn't have to find them; I knew where they lived."

The Hospital Y. M. C. A. workers deeply regret the withdrawal of Mr. W. W. Hall from the force, necessitated by his large business interests in New York. During his long term of service here he has made a host of friends and has brought the work under his care up to a high degree of efficiency. Mr. H. N. Fernald has also left the staff recently, for the same reasons, and his going has left a real vacancy. Mr. H. B. Leech, connected with the camp "Y" for nine months, is acting director of the Hospital "Y."

\* \* \*

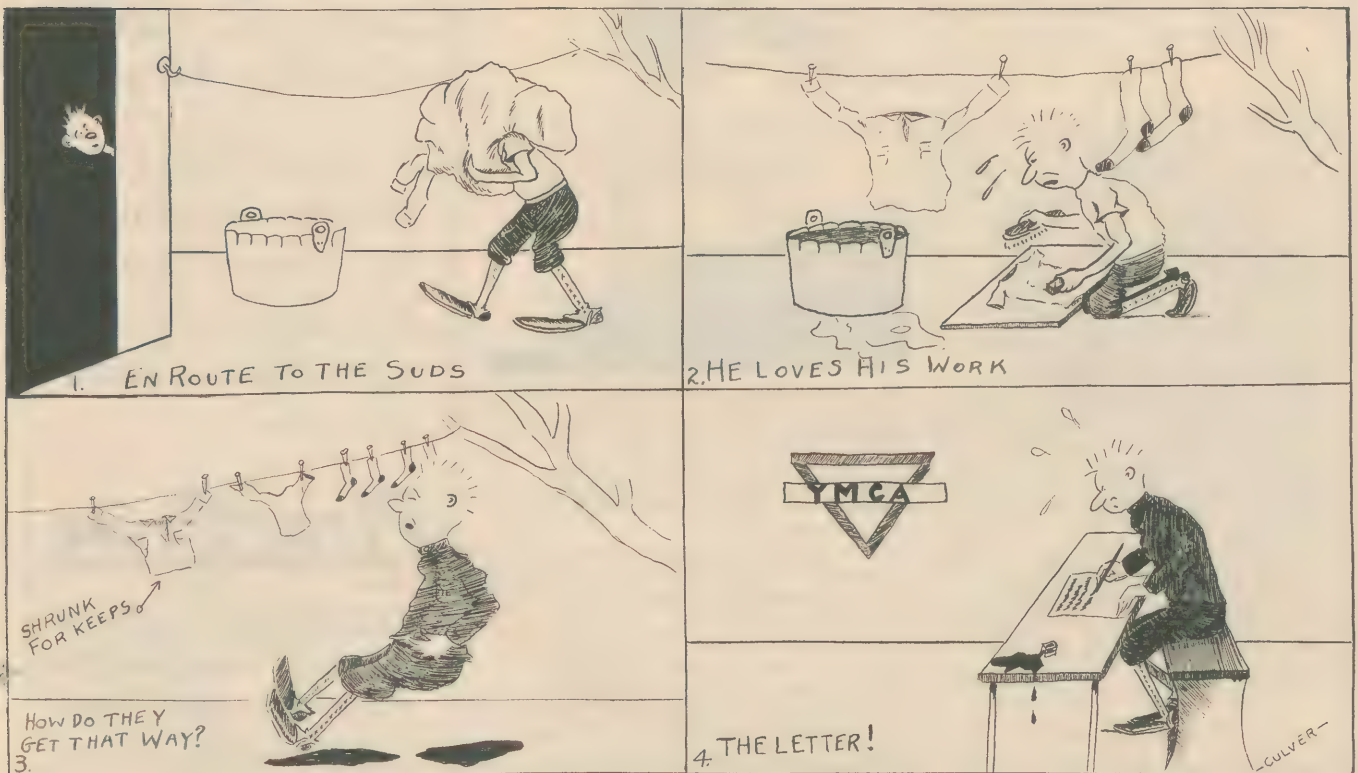
Mail Clerk to Orderly, Ward 43: "Are you the wardmaster?"

Tennessee: "No, I just work here."

(Continued on page 28)

## "SHEP, THE SHAME OF BARRACKS VI!"

### No. 2 "HIS WEEKLY WASH!"



To The Society for  
Relief of Armenian Children N.Y.C.  
I am sending you a bundle of clean  
clothes that ought to fit any three year  
old child very nicely. Maybe I shall  
have some more for you next week.

Yours truly

Pvt 1/c Foster A. C. Shepherd





"ST. VITUS DANCE ON THE BUGLE."

There is quite an unappreciative audience in the wee sma' hours as the bugler goes through his repertoire of army calls. We like music, but not at 5:30 A. M.

#### Heard in the Barracks

The following comments seem to hint at a lack of appreciation of his efforts: "He's at it again." "It's the St. Vitus' dance on the bugle." "He likes the sound of his own voice." "What's the idea, anyway!" etc., etc., etc.

\* \* \*



Pvt. 1/c Diederly, of the Operating Room, is one of the few married men of the Base Hospital Detachment. He is looking forward to a reunion one of these days when the matter of his discharge is finally settled. We might be looking forward to our discharge also if we were lucky enough to have a nice little wife awaiting us on our return from "doing our bit."

\* \* \*

The singing of Corp. Geo. Hackett has become quite a feature of the Wednesday afternoon Tea and Cake Club at the Base Hospital "Y." The gift of song seems to run in the family, as Corp. Hackett's brother, Carlo Hackett, of the Metropolitan Opera Co., has been hailed by New York musical critics as the best lyric tenor who has appeared in many years.

\* \* \*

Sgt. 1/c Robert S. O'Neill, Top Sgt. of the Detachment, has been promoted to the grade of Hospital Sergeant.

Hospital Sergeant Hayes has been promoted to the grade of Master Hospital Sergeant. A well-disciplined soldier of the old school, his enthusiasm, loyalty and unflinching attention to duty has elevated him to the position which he holds as Sgt. Maj. of this command. We wish him continued success.

\* \* \*

Pvt. 1/c William McAndrew, wardmaster of Ward 1, has been granted a five-day furlough. Just one year ago Bill was warmly welcomed by the Sergeant of the Guard from an A. W. O. L. furlough and received thirty days in the Guard House. We are betting that he is wiser now.

\* \* \*

#### The Bathing Vamp.



Pvt. 1/c Edward Westland, of the Outside Police is dreaming of an early discharge from the army these days and nights. Eddie's dream takes form at San Diego, California, where the beach siren beckons and the bathing vamp disports on the sands.

Miss Marie Gray, of the Camp Merritt telephone office, has obligingly put Eddie's dream into concrete form for the MESS-KIT.

\* \* \*

#### What the Man Will Wear

Khaki will be the prevailing color at the Hospital this spring. It will range in shade from white to a medium brown, depending on the number of times washed. The material will be khaki, gabardine and serge.

Coats will match the trousers and will be tightly fitting throughout. Under no conditions will a khaki blouse be worn with a pair of blue fatigue pants.

Canvas leggings will be worn on all occasions, whether formal or informal.

It is rumored that Sgt. 1/c Spradlin will issue O. D. straw hats to the non-coms.

Hats for Privates will be of felt with a semi-stiff brim. It will have four indentations, one on each corner. Discriminating dressers may wear a maroon and white hat cord of cotton.

The members of the Stockade who are inside of it have adopted a very "spiffy" uniform. It is of blue denim with a six-inch white stripe around waist, knees and ankles. They may be seen any morning promenading up fashionable Madison Avenue around 7:30.



## PURITY

is the most essential quality of any food product. It must be nourishing and palatable, but above all it must be pure.

It is purity that gives the excellent flavor; the sweet appetizing fragrance and excellent food value to

## First Prize

TRADE MARK REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

First Prize is made of carefully selected ingredients under ideal manufacturing conditions. There is absolutely no benzoate of soda or other preservative used in First Prize.

First Prize should be asked for by name.

### AMMON & PERSON

Churners of Fancy Nut Butter  
JERSEY CITY, N. J.

Established 1891



# SOLDIERS' SWEETHEARTS

## No. 2. "The Spring Girl"



Drawn for the Mess-Kit by Miss Marion E. Lewis

After two weeks of confinement in the Hospital with pneumonia, Pvt. 1/c Walter Thoreen, of the Sick and Wounded office, is back among us once more. You may



"THAT LONG, LONG TRAIL TO ORADELL."

find him any evening along the long, long trail to Oradell.

\* \* \*

The following named non-commissioned officers, privates first-class and privates were transferred from this hospital on March 17, 1919, to U. S. A. Debarkation Hospital No. 5, Forty-sixth Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City, for duty at that hospital: Sergts. McKenna, Friefield and Hulley; Corps. Feinberg, Gundorf and Moses; Privates, first-class, Cox, Hagen, Schram, Baker and Shuss; Privates Diener, Duffy, Dugan, Edwards, Giordano, Goodchuck, Hadesman, Harper, Hedglin, Hess, Johnson, Kallenbach, Kleinz, Lord, Markowitz, Montgomery, Morrison, Murphy, Oxman, Osowski, Poeppel, Rea, Ricci, Riddle, Sambito, Shelton, Hersey, Vollmer, Zappini, Goodson, Eckhart, Gonsalves, Fancher, Hemphill, Garropo, Gladysz, Mongolli and Ginghamano.

(Continued on page 30)

# THE CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK

Of Englewood, N. J.

ORGANIZED A.D. 1890

Albert I. Drayton, President  
Samuel S. Campbell, Vice-President  
John B. Lewis, Cashier

TELEPHONE 575

## M. RUESS

*Groceries, Vegetables, Delicatessen*

PALISADE AVENUE AND PALISADE PLACE

ENGLEWOOD, N. J.

## The U. S. FOOD PRODUCT COMPANY

Specialties in Carloads

BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS, POULTRY, Etc.

138 Reade Street, New York

Phone Worth 6925

## It is a Comforting Thing to Sorrowing Relatives and Friends

to know that the last sad rites are carefully attended to. Our establishment offers the best service obtainable anywhere, with fully equipped attending automobiles, new motor-ambulance, and caskets either plain or richly ornamented, varying in cost from \$50 to \$1,500, as desired. We furnish everything required. Relatives of the deceased who write, phone, or call upon us may be sure of careful consideration of their requests in little things as in great things, our aim being to carry out their wishes to the last detail, and to do everything they would wish done for the dead just as carefully as if they were present to superintend the arrangements. Our Chapel is furnished with good taste and refinement for the holding of Funeral Services.

Address **CLAUDE A. HILL**

*Funeral Director*

123 Main St.

Phone 8, Hackensack

Hackensack, N. J.

(Successor to Demarest-Briggs, Undertakers)



## PERSONALS

(Continued from page 29)

Pvt. Paul Muhleman, of the Laboratory, has received his discharge from the service and has returned to his home in Lynn, Mass., where he will resume his practice with a hospital in that city. Pvt. Muhleman has only recently returned from France and is one of the few doctors in the service who has not been commissioned. \* \* \*

With a cabinet of officers elected under four different heads the Base Hospital "Y" Club is rapidly getting under way as a real live organization. Corp. Yerkes was elected President and Sgt. 1/c Muhl, Secretary. The four heads of the different departments are: Athletic, Corp. Newcomb; Educational, Corp. Clement; Social, Pvt. 1/c Heller; Religious, Pvt. 1/c Longbottom. \* \* \*

The club is meeting every Monday evening and is planning a busy spring season with a glee club, debating society and baseball team to be formed in the near future. These meetings are open to all members of the detachment. Don't forget the place, "Y" rooms in the rear of Ward No. 4; and don't forget the time, 8 P. M. \* \* \*

As the "ghost walked" on the 11th of the month, Pvt. 1/c Geo. Scollins has cancelled his seat reservation at Y. M. C. A. No. 1, for one week. \* \* \*

Pvt. 1/c Watt Riggs, of the Laboratory, has been transferred to the Polyclinic Hospital, New York City. Riggs has a similar position with the Polyclinic as he held here. THE MESS-KIT wishes him all the luck in the world with his new outfit. \* \* \*

Much curiosity is being aroused over the article on Pvt. 1/c Harry Norman's upper lip. Harry insists that it is a mustache, but one eminent authority on Human Abnormalities has confessed that he is beaten. We suggest that he let it grow and prove it to us. \* \* \*

Among the transfers to Ward J in Englewood, N. J., were Sgt. 1/c Allard, of the Personnel office; Corp. Young, of the Detachment office; Pvt. 1/c Kirk and Pvt. Greenburg, of the Sick and Wounded office. \* \* \*

For the past several weeks the ladies of Ridgewood have been serving tea and cake to the patients on Wednesday afternoons and ladies of Montclair entertaining with home-made cake and other good things on Thursdays. These parties are for the men in the hospital, and we would like to see all convalescents wending their way to the Y. M. C. A. building, directly back of Ward No. 4, between two and four on any Wednesday or Thursday afternoon. We can assure them that their trip will not be a waste of time.

Pvts. 1/c "Bobbie" Vachon and "Pad-die" Killeen have been transferred to General Hospital No. 21, Denver, Colo., as patients. Both of them will be missed as both of them were artists in their respective lines, the musical and the argumentative. \* \* \*

Sgt. Ronahan, of the Post Office, is studying Civil Service Exams. for Rural Mail carriers. \* \* \*

Business is picking up for Pvt. Sunshine, of the Base Hospital Basketball team. He has been transferred from the Kitchen to the Outside Police. He has hopes of graduating to the subscription staff of THE MESS-KIT.

The trolley men went on strike on the morning of the 12th, which was tough on the fellows who have feminine acquaintances in Paterson and Jersey City, as it is a long, lonesome walk. \* \* \*

Among the Medical Dept. men recently transferred to the Quartermaster Corps was Sgt. 1/c Raymond McDermott. Mac says that he is beginning to get used to the buff hat cord, although he still holds a tender regard for the maroon and white. \* \* \*

Pvt. 1/c Quinn, of the telephone switchboard, is beginning to chew gum and talk with a lisp.

## TO THE WOUNDED SOLDIERS OF THE AMERICAN ARMY

The White House, Washington

I could tell you what the sacrifices you have made have meant to the world. I could tell you what history for all time to come will say of you and of the sufferings you have experienced on your great crusade. But these things other men will tell you.

I prefer to remind you that the wounds you bear are the noblest badges of honor any man has ever worn; that they exalt you to a supreme place in the minds and hearts of your countrymen and of all the world. I prefer to assure you that America realizes that she has no more solemn obligation, no more patriotic duty than to express in practical terms the gratitude that every American—man, woman and child—feels for every one of you. America will not forget.

WOODROW WILSON.

## French For Soldiers

By the Editor

A Course of Instruction in Speaking, Writing and Reading the French Language. Written for THE MESS-KIT, Divided Into 10 Easy Lessons. Lesson II.

So. A stiff-necked and perverse generation, seeking after a sign. Interested in one thing only:—"When do we go from here, boys, *When* do we go from here?" It is bad for the brain to allow it to dwell exclusively upon a single idea. General nuttiness follows. THE MESS-KIT advises you for your own good, having your best interests at heart, to keep in the front of your mind one thought only in connection with your Honorable Discharge from the Army of the United States, namely, this: "I stick as long as they need me!" Holding this thought as of first importance, the rest follows in order, namely: "The better I do my work now, the smoother the machine runs; the faster the wheels turn; the quicker they get through with me, the sooner I get my discharge and get home."

There is no better or sounder line of thought or line of action for the enlisted man at the present moment than the above. Grumbling is childish; worrying is stupid; "kicking" is a hindrance, and unsoldierly. The one thing needed is team-work. Pull together; put it through; put it over and go home. That is all. That is the order of sound thought and sound action. Any other course invites disturbance, confusion, delay. Let us speed up the machine. You and I and a million others like us regulate the speed of the machine. The man with his hand on the lever does not supply the power. You and I, and the rest generate the power. The man at the top touches the lever and says: "If the current were there I could get speed out of this machine. The power is weak." Therefore, it is you and I and the rest of us who do actually determine the rate of speed of the machine, because we are the current that drives it. All right. Let's get on.

## LIBERTY THEATRE

## Coming Attractions

Monday, March 24—ACME VAUDEVILLE CO. April 3—CAPT. COOKE'S MINSTRELS  
Thursday, March 27—BERNSTEIN VAUDEVILLE April 7—BILLY ALLEN CO.  
Monday, March 31—SICK-A-BED April 14—MANHATTAN GIRL REVUE



I am moved to deliver this lay-sermon in your second lesson in speaking, writing and reading the French Language, because of a notable lack of enthusiasm observable in the men of this detachment in the matter of acquiring any conversational fluency whatever in any tongue other than your native tongue. The rafters of Barracks 6 do not ring with a vociferous chanting of mornings of such phrases as:

"Bon Jour," pronounced "Bawng joor," meaning "Good Morning."

"Je vais tres bien, merci, et vous-meme?" pronounced "Jer vay tray beeang mairsee, ay voo mame?" meaning, "I am very well, thanks; and you?"

"Comment cela va-t-il?" pronounced, "Komang slar vart eel?" meaning, "How goes it?"

"Avez-vous des nouvelles de votre amie?" pronounced "Avay voo day noo-vell der votrammee?" meaning, "Did you hear from your girl yet?"

Nor is the air soothed by the dulcet tones of Corporal Toby Ward politely inquiring of Pvt. 1/c Mortimer Heller, "Avez-vous bien dormi la nuit derniere?" pronounced, "Avay voo beang dawrmee lar nwee dairniaire?" meaning, "Did you sleep well last night?"

And we listen in vain for Private Heller to announce to a sympathetic audience, "Je n'ai pas bien dormi," pronounced "Jer nay par beeang dawrmee," meaning, "I did not sleep well."

He might have added: "Le bruit m'a reveille," pronounced, "Ler brooce mar revaeay," meaning, "The noise woke me up." He should say this with some heat, resentfully regarding the sleeping form of Pvt. 1/c George Scollins in his cot across the way, George having an idea, when he returns to barracks in the early hours of the morning, that sleeping men like to hear the thud of his boots on the floor, and that they are interested in his opinion of things in general. George tells them what he thinks. He is a little hurt, but not for long, that they do not talk freely to him. Failing an audience, George talks to himself in a loud, argumentative tone. He tells himself and the world at large that he is all right. What George ought to say, when conversationally inclined is about as follows, holding a spirited conversation with himself and improving his French at the same time:

"Ou est ma pipe?" pronounced, "Oo ay mar peep?" meaning, "Where is my pipe?"

"La voila," pronounced "Lar vwarlar," meaning "There it is."

"J'ai peu d'allumettes," pronounced "Jay pew daloomett," meaning "I have few matches."

"Il faut que je me lave la figure, la bouche, le front, le nez, le menton, les yeux, les oreilles, les mains, les bras, les jambes, les pieds," pronounced "Eel fo ker jer mer larv lar feegoor, lar boosh, ler frong, ler nay, ler mantong, laze yer, laze orayee, lay mang, lay brar, lay peeyay," meaning "I must wash my face, my mouth, my forehead, my nose, my chin, my eyes, my ears, my hands, my arms, my feet," and being a thorough person, bent on making a job of it, so to speak, George will probably add, finding he has omitted mention of them, "et les jambes," pronounced "ay lay jamb," meaning "and my legs." Thus we have before us the promise of George's toilet conscientiously performed at 3 a. m., and the point we wish to impress upon George is that the Barracks would be more interested in George's intentions if delivered in the French language than when offered to us for consumption in ordinary English, and pitched in a deep reverberating growl at that. George must

not complain if his audience is a little indifferent. It is suggested that he try them with French. Thus, on entering the office in the morning he might say to his comrades, quite as if it were something new, "Je meurs de faim. Mais oui, vraiment, j'ai grand appetit," pronounced "Jay mer der fam, May wee, vraymang, jay grond appettee," meaning "I die of hunger. Yes, truly, I have a great appetite." We all know that George can eat like a horse. We all know that there is never a minute in the day when he is not dying of hunger, but we shall hear the announcement of his condition with interest as something new and pleasing and interesting if George will tell it to us in French. In contrast to George's booming of his appetite we shall listen with sympathy and equal interest to Pvt. 1/c Mortimer Heller when he rises in the morning after a sleepless night—all George's fault—and says, "J'ai mal a la tete et j'ai mal au coeur," pronounced "Jay mal ar lar tate ay jay mal o ker," meaning "I have a

headache and I feel sick at my stomach."

I tell you once more, in all seriousness, that if you will read over and over again the simple lessons in the French language given you each month, beginning with the March number of THE MESS-KIT, you will, without effort, acquire a good vocabulary of French words and a good knowledge of French idioms in the course of the year 1919, and you will fix them in your mind so that they rise easily to the lips at any time by one method, the one right method of acquiring a knowledge of any language, namely, by the repetition of the words aloud, in order that you become used to the *sounds* of the words. This is how children learn to speak their own tongue, and this is how you can learn easily to speak any other tongue. Preserve your copies of THE MESS-KIT and keep your set intact from the beginning, because we cannot supply missing numbers.

(To be continued)

## The Great Question and Its Answer

By Private 1/c George D. Faris, Med. Dept.

With the ending of the world-war comes much talk of a reconstruction of trade conditions—the rebuilding, re-peopling, replanting of lands and cities laid waste and made desolate; and there is little doubt that a giant energy directed to one end will work the miracle of a once more happy Belgium, a once more placid Russia, a Paris again care-free, a London content, and a United States cheerily reverting to the rare old sport of chasing the dollar to its lair. All of this is possible, because the accomplishment of this result, all wills are directed, all desires move, all hopes unite. It is a universal heave. Miracles follow.

In this time of reconstruction, however, has not something of the greatest value to the individual, not only in these United States, but in all Allied countries, been forgotten? I think so, and it is my duty and pleasure to state this need in words, and fill this need, in such complete form that it shall suffice for all humanity. Once the need is stated its universal appeal is manifest. A babel of tongues shall proclaim it, and acclaim the answer.

Bluntly stated, the GREAT QUESTION that will be asked of all men of this generation by all schoolboys, school-girls, young men and maidens, in all languages, under all skies, is, "DADDY, WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE BIG WAR?"

We must face this question like men, and, having agreed upon our story, must stick to it. Let us answer it worthily, in no slinking, half-hearted manner. Let us adopt, as a fundamental, this—that the story shall be a sea story, rather than a land story, because the sea leaves no trace. Details offer room for much pleasant play of fancy, and may be trimmed according to taste, but there must be no fooling with the foundation, or all crumbles. A sea story is a safe story. You might begin something in this wise:

"Well, children, I did not do very much. Of course, I did what I could, and I believe they named a few streets after me in the capitals of Europe, but I was always against public honors. Yes, I remember that one of my adventures made some noise at the time, but heroic deeds were quite common in those days and I disliked display."

(Note: There is opportunity at this point for some improvement in detail if, as is possible, you have anything like a medal or decoration lying about, which can be produced on the instant. If the date of the medal is decipherable, however, it will be better to let it rest in the attic, because these young ones have an evil habit of ferreting out dates and dreary facts of an upsetting nature. Better always to play safe. Deal in striking generalities, and avoid specific proofs. Take no risks.)

"I enlisted, of course, as soon as the call for men to fight the common foe startled the country and let loose the fever of war among us. I was the idol of my company. Officers and men alike seemed to be attracted to me in a strange way. Our major spoke highly of my fine, soldierly qualities. He often said that if he had a company of men of my stamp he could wipe the Hun off the face of the earth in two weeks. All the girls fell in love with me on sight."

(Note: This may do all right for a bachelor uncle, but it is hardly the thing for a married man to prattle about, to his children, you understand? Use a little discretion here. Your wife may be within hearing.)

"Our company was one of the first to go overseas. I shall never forget that trip across. The submarines were waiting for us, as we knew, from warnings reaching us by wireless, sent by British destroyers racing towards us to act as convoy to us and get us safely through the danger zone. By a great piece of good fortune I was leaning over the bulwarks one warm, sunny afternoon, gazing idly into the green water and wondering if I should ever see the dear faces at home again, when suddenly, without a sound, not a hundred feet away from us, a little funnel-like tube poked itself above the surface of the sea, moving in a line parallel with our course, and keeping easily abreast of us. I had to do some quick thinking. Should I give the alarm? No. That would only mean that the torpedo from the submarine would be launched instantly, and we should be sunk in ten minutes. It was an odd thing that no eye but mine had seen the periscope of

(Continued on page 32)



## "THE FOLKS AT HOME WANT YOUR PICTURE!"

**T**HIS is the message sent to the boy in hospital in every letter from home. Send your request now to Jenkins, Photographer, Englewood, N. J., and he will take the picture of the wounded man in his Hospital Ward. The picture is the evidence the folks at home need to convince them that their boy is all right. **You, mothers and fathers, stop worrying! Write to Jenkins. Tell him to take your boy's picture and send it to you.** Permission to take these photographs in Wards has been granted by the Hospital Command. Address, for quick action,

**JENKINS, The PHOTOGRAPHER**  
ENGLEWOOD, N. J.



(Continued from page 31)

the terror of the seas, but so it happened. While I was thinking out a plan, the submarine submerged again silently, and the periscope sank out of sight. I had seen clearly, however, that it was keeping in line with the ship, and at the same distance, about a hundred feet away. I had long wished for a chance, children, to cope with the submarine problem, single-handed, and solve it, and here, it seemed, was my opportunity. I resolved to act alone. Watching closely, I was gratified to see in a few moments the white track of bubbles approaching the side of our transport, denoting the launching of a deadly torpedo from the submarine. I judged, from the speed at which we were moving, that this torpedo would just graze the stern of our ship, and perhaps miss us altogether. There was not a moment to be lost. I ripped up the laces of my shoes with my jack-knife, threw off my shoes and coat, and raced along the deck to the stern of the ship, keeping all the while an eye on the track of the torpedo, speeding nearer and nearer to us. My guess was correct; the white wake of the approaching instrument of death showed that we should just clear it, and it would spend its fearful energy far away from its quarry. It was necessary for the success of my plan that I secure this torpedo. Leaping upon the bulwarks I dived into the sea, with the intention of bestriking the monster and using it to effect a fearful vengeance. I succeeded beyond my expectations. Judging that the torpedo was traveling at a depth of about five feet beneath the surface, I had shot into the water at an angle that would bring us head to head. That is exactly what happened. I shall never forget the crushing force of that impact, but, as I expected, the collision had no effect on the speed of the monster, or the direction of its course, while it enabled me, in a flash, to throw myself on its back towards the tail, which naturally lifted its head and brought it rapidly to the surface.

(To be concluded in May number)

JOSEPH ALONSO, PROP.

## Campus Restaurant

*For Ladies and Gentlemen*

MAIN ROAD TO CAMP MERRITT

PARK & MADISON AVES.  
DUMONT, N. J.

## Massachusetts

The Massachusetts Club for Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, at 22 East 48th Street, is maintained officially by your home State.

## Make It Your Meeting Place

Home Papers, Books, Magazines, Telephones and Attractive Quarters  
Are Here for Your Comfort

Open Until 10:30 Every Evening

**22 East 48th Street**

Between Fifth Avenue and Madison Avenue, New York

**MRS. C. HAUSER**  
MADISON AVE., DUMONT, N. J.  
**CANDY, CIGARS,  
CONFECTIONERY,  
ICE CREAM**

Next block to Casino

**DOMINICK BRUNO**  
MADISON AVE., DUMONT, N. J.  
**LADIES and GENTS  
CUSTOM TAILOR**  
Cleaning, Pressing, Repairing  
*Military Work a Specialty*

Next Block to Casino

**FANCY FRUITS**  
AT CAMP MERRITT INN

Everything you would expect to find in a first class fruit store is for sale here

**AT LOWEST PRICES**  
*Special Rates for Banquets*

# HORTON'S ICE CREAM

*"Those who fought for Uncle Sam—Know  
it's free from fault and sham!"*

At Merritt Inn you can buy from a leading Dumont merchant

**THE FINEST SHOES FOR THE MONEY YOU EVER WORE**

Does that mean anything to YOU? Come and see. Just ask for

**THE SHOE MERCHANT OF MERRITT INN**





Main Entrance of Merritt Inn

**California  
Orange Drink**  
**5cts. 5cts.**

Made Fresh Daily

WHILE IN CAMP VISIT

**The Army and Navy Military Shop**  
(INC.)

for HIGH CLASS CLOTHING

Uniforms, Raincoats, Shirts, Leggings, Etc.

MERRITT INN

## SHOES

Regulation, Russet and Civilian Shoes  
AT LESS THAN CITY PRICES

## At the SODA FOUNTAIN

You will find cool and refreshing drinks of all kinds

Ice Cream, Milk Shakes, Malted Milk, Frosted Drinks

ALL FLAVORS

Under Management of M. BRETTNER

## SANITARY BARBER SHOP

9 CHAIRS

*Up-to-the-Minute Equipment*

SHAVE, 15c HAIR CUT, 25c

## MERRITT INN ARMY TAILORS

CLEANING, PRESSING  
and REPAIRING

Dry Cleaning and Hat  
Blocking

On Madison Avenue  
Camp Merritt, N. J.

## POOL and BILLIARDS

25 Tables of Finest Quality

Good Light—Perfect Ventilation

Fine Toilets and Washroom

ROOM FOR EVERYBODY—SERVICE OUR SPECIALTY

## WATCHMAKER OF CAMP MERRITT

Watches Repaired While You Wait

Old Watches Bought

MERRITT INN

MADISON AVE.

## MERRITT INN SUPPLY SHOP DIVISIONAL INSIGNIAS

OUR SPECIALTY

### HATS

Whipcord Over-Sea Caps

## ELGIN and WALTHAM WATCHES

Souvenirs of Camp Merritt

We also carry a complete line of regulation army merchandise

## PHOTOGRAPHS

Highest Grade Work  
Delivered Same Day

*SPECIAL PRICES TO  
MEN IN UNIFORM*

Open From 10 A.M. Till 8 P.M.



# Base Hospital Post Exchange and Base Hospital Barber Shop Are Held to Be the Most Commodious, Cleanest, Most Sanitary and Most Up-to-date of Any Similar Military Hospital Buildings in the Country by Government Inspectors



**BASE HOSPITAL POST EXCHANGE** carries a complete line at all times of Candy, Cigars, Cigarettes, Tobacco, Suit Cases, Bags, Cakes, Pies, Fruits, Soft Drinks, Trunks, Toilet Articles, Pennants, Pillow Tops, Military Jewelry, Insignia, &c.

We are installing a first-class, modern Soda Fountain in our Post Exchange, where the best of soft drinks, Sundae, &c., will be served.

We take this opportunity of issuing a special invitation to all visitors to the Base Hospital to make a point of calling at the Post Exchange to see for themselves how things are run at an "Army Canteen." We conduct also a business by mail, receiving orders from relatives of wounded men in hospital to expend a specified sum in

fruits, candies, or tobacco, for a patient in a certain ward. Such orders are carefully attended to and all details may be safely left in our hands.

Exchange Officer—Capt. Griffith A. Thomas, M.C., U.S.A.

Exchange Steward—Sgt. Harold J. Coons

Enlisted Personnel—Pvts. 1/c Harold J. McNally, Harry A. Wendlandt, Samuel Insull, Engelbert Swedin, Lloyd Keller.

**BASE HOSPITAL BARBER SHOP** carries seven chairs, electric equipment, plentiful hot water, special anti-septic precautions in sterilizing of razors, shaving-brushes, and all instruments in use, maintaining scrupulous cleanliness of surroundings at all times. Prices are graded to conform to the wishes of the customer. A plain shave costs 10 cents; a shave with hot towel applications and Lilac Water finish, 15 cents. Plain shampoo, 25 cents. Hair cut, 25 cents. Face Massage, 25 cents.

Our staff of barbers wear white uniforms at all times. We endeavor to provide the best service under conditions that will bear the most exacting inspection at any moment, for the lowest price possible.

The invitation extended to visitors to look in upon us at The Post Exchange at any time includes also the Base Hospital Barber Shop. We take great pride in it, and will be glad to have you give an opinion on how it strikes your eye. Come and see it for yourself.

